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Arms Control

EAST EUROPE: BERLIN NUCLEAR-WEAPONS-FREE ZONES MEETING
20-22 JUNE 1988

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20-22 June 1988

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EAST EUROPE: BERLIN
NUCLEAR-WEAPONS-FREE ZONES MEETING
20-22 JUNE 1988

Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones Meeting Begins in Berlin

Tisch Welcomes Guests

*LD1606184788 East Berlin ADN in German
1539 GMT 16 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 16 Jun (ADN)—The first foreign delegations have arrived in Berlin to attend the International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones which begins in Berlin on Monday.

The first guests arrived from Laos, the PDRY, and Namibia.

The Lao delegation is headed by Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo. The delegation from the PDRY is headed by Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee. Simon Kaukungwa, South-West Africa People's Organization Central Committee member and chairman of the Elders Council, arrived from Namibia.

The guests were welcomed by Harry Tisch, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and of the GDR State Council, and by SED Central Committee members Werner Mueller, deputy chairman of the SED Central Auditing Commission; and Wolfgang Rauchfuss, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Honecker Opens Meeting

*LD2006121888 East Berlin ADN in German
0847 GMT 20 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 20 Jun (ADN)—This morning the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones started in the Palace of the Republic in Berlin. In his opening address Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR Council of State and general secretary of the SED Central Committee, welcomed the 1034 guests from 113 countries on all continents, who are taking part in the meeting.

The first chairman of the meeting, Hermann Axen, chairman of the People's Chamber Foreign Affairs Committee, Politburo member, and SED Central Committee secretary, thanked Erich Honecker for his initiative in calling the conference and for his opening speech. The initiative was met with a broad international echo, represented by its wide participation, which exceeds all expectations. The number of participants is so large,

Herman Axen said, that some of the guests from the GDR and abroad are following the plenary session in the People's Chamber's large assembly hall.

At the first break in the proceedings Erich Honecker personally welcomed numerous representatives from all over the world in the meeting hall. He had received many of them previously in Berlin or met them while abroad. In a friendly atmosphere, he held short conversations and exchanges of first impressions.

Before the meeting resumed, Erich Honecker received a personal message from Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, and chairman of the PRK Council of State. It was handed to him by Men Sam-An, leader of the Kampuchean delegation, and member of the Politburo and Central Committee Secretariat. Erich Honecker thanked him cordially for the message.

Receives Soviets

*LD2106084588 East Berlin ADN in German
0821 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received this morning the Soviet delegation to the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. The Soviet delegation is headed by Petr Demichev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Present at the friendly discussion in the State Council Building were Kurt Hager, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and other figures.

Szuros Attends

*LD2006103788 Budapest MTI in English
0900 GMT 20 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, June 20 (MTI)—A Hungarian delegation, headed by Matyas Szuros, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, is attending a three-day international consultation on nuclear-free zones in Berlin.

In the Berlin Palace of Republic over 1,000 representatives of 111 countries are exchanging views on the possibilities of establishing nuclear-free zones and the latter's role in strengthening international security and promoting general disarmament.

Syrian Arrives

*JN1906140888 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1112 GMT 19 Jun 88*

[Excerpt] Berlin, 19 Jun (SANA)—Nasir Qaddur, Syria's minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Berlin yesterday evening leading a delegation to participate in the Berlin International Meeting on a Nuclear-Free Zones. The 3-day meeting will begin work tomorrow, Monday. [passage omitted]

Meets GDR Official

*JN2106054188 Damascus Domestic Service
in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin—Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, last night met with Heinz-Dieter Winter, GDR deputy foreign minister, on the sidelines of the Berlin International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. Winter praised Syria's important and essential role in the region, expressing high appreciation for the Syrian role at the Arab summit in Algiers, particularly President Hafiz al-Asad's special and distinguished role.

On the sidelines of the conference, GDR Chairman Erich Honecker earlier held cordial conversation with Shaykh Ahmad Kuftaru, Syria's mufti, who is participating in the conference.

'Arafat Arrives

*LD2006075488 East Berlin ADN in German
0602 GMT 20 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 20 Jun (ADN)—A delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organization led by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived early today in the GDR capital to take part in the International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. The delegation was warmly welcomed by Egon Krenz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

Honecker Addresses Meeting

*LD2006102288 East Berlin ADN in German
0822 GMT 20 Jun 88*

[“Speech by Erich Honecker, Chairman of the GDR Council of State and General Secretary of the SED Central Committee, at the Opening of the International Meeting for Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones on 20 June 1988 in Berlin”—ADN headline]

[Text] Berlin, 20 Jun (ADN)—Most esteemed ladies and gentlemen, dear friends and comrades: It is a pleasure to welcome you warmly to this International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. What has brought us together is the awareness of our responsibility for peace, our concern for humanity's well-being, and the readiness for dialogue and cooperation over and above that which divides us. I therefore combine my greetings with my sincere gratitude that you have responded to my invitation to the GDR, to Berlin. Your representative participation demonstrates that efforts for a secure world without nuclear weapons and for lasting peace embrace all continents. Without doubt, this meeting will serve as an important impetus and I wish it a successful course.

A few days ago, at the Moscow summit, General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan gave a positive review of the benefit of the continuation of the disarmament process, and fresh progress on the way toward improving the international situation. This

strengthens the confidence of everyone who is convinced not only of the necessity but also of the possibility of preventing humanity's demise in a nuclear inferno and achieving peaceful coexistence, and getting on well together.

As we know, the problems which still remain to be solved are in no way small and the resistance from a certain source against such a constructive solution cannot be overlooked. But in the end the common will to liberate the world from nuclear and chemical weapons of mass destruction, to drastically reduce conventional arms and forces, reason, realism, and relevant actions, will be stronger.

By the exchange of ratification documents the representatives of the USSR and the United States have brought into force the treaty on the removal of their intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. On behalf of the GDR, which has made great efforts on this treaty, I would like to express deep contentment and satisfaction. For the first time, the start of nuclear disarmament has been accomplished, and the vicious circle of pre- and counterarmament has been broken after decades of confrontation and distrust. The Moscow agreements, which are to lead to an agreement on halving strategic offensive weapons while adhering to the ABM Treaty in the foreseeable future, are very important for further progress along this good path.

Dear participants, man's imagination, which is always ahead of the times, is already trying to picture what the world will look like in the coming, third millennium. If we start from predictions of possible developments in society and in science and technology, new and great prospects will open up for humanity. These can only be fulfilled in peace and only if we succeed in banishing the danger of nuclear annihilation.

The longing for peace is as old as humanity itself. From “goodwill on earth and goodwill to all men” via Immanuel Kant's political and philosophical draft of an eternal peace, it has moved humanity at all times. In the middle of the last century, Karl Marx, the founder of scientific socialism, called for rendering valid the simple laws of morality and justice, which are supposed to regulate relations between private individuals, as the highest laws for the intercourse of nations.

Today 5 billion people live on our planet. The fruits of the earth, used in the interest of nations, can overcome hunger and poverty as well as underdevelopment and inequality. However, the stockpiles of nuclear weapons would be sufficient to annihilate humanity many times over. It is therefore a matter of decisions which not only concern the present generation but all future ones too.

Will reason or the bomb rule the world? Will the achievements of the creative human spirit determine the life of nations and of nature, or be misused for their annihilation? In view of the realities at the end of our century, the

policy of peaceful coexistence between states of differing social orders is proving more necessary than ever. Equal security and equality for all states, regardless of their size, social systems, geographical position or alliance membership are essential.

For this reason, in the interests of peace and prosperity, it is now time to overcome existing barriers and to banish rivalry, exclusivity, and prejudice from international relations. In times of radical change, such as those we are now living through, the demand goes out to everyone to set out convincing prospects for the perfection of the world, and to find answers to the many new questions with which mankind is confronted. The realization of these efforts is made possible by ending the arms race and by a continued disarmament process in the nuclear, chemical, and conventional areas.

A world without nuclear weapons is a bold, but by no means illusory vision, even though the path may be difficult. To tread the path to that destination requires persistence, courage, and patience on all sides. It requires goodwill and trust in the power and reason of the peoples, whose first human right is peace. We regard nuclear weapons-free zones and peace zones as an important stage toward strengthening peace and security. They can lead directly to the reduction and elimination of weapons of mass destruction.

In this, the concept of regional freedom from nuclear weapons is not really altogether new. Numerous countries have already taken this step, and thus we can base ourselves on rich experiences and noteworthy results. Let the Treaty of Tlatelolco be mentioned here, along with the South Pacific nuclear-free zone. Let there be reference to plans by the states in Southeast Asia, in northern Europe, in the Balkans, on the Iberian Peninsula, in the Mediterranean region, in Africa, in the Near East, in the South Atlantic region, and on the Korean peninsula. In a word, viable ways are being sought on all continents.

The weapons of death should disappear from the globe, and space should remain free of them. This fundamental idea has inspired us to the initiative of convening the Berlin International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. May it be incorporated in the line of international policy which is characterized by reason and realism. Differing political and ideological viewpoints should not be allowed to prevent us from safeguarding joint interests and practicing a culture of objective political dialogue, which includes dealing with opposites in a way which serves collaboration and harms no one.

An open and free exchange of views between leading representatives of states, governments, parliaments, communist, social democratic, national revolutionary and bourgeois parties, of representatives of the most varied organizations and movements, seems to us to be best suited toward evaluating differing experiences, new ideas, and proposals in a constructive discussion of the

'pros' and 'cons.' Thus we hope for an atmosphere of creative, well-founded dialogue, in which the viewpoints can be explained and greater understanding and new realizations promoted on the essential issues.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen of the audience, as Europeans, we regard it as important that this International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones is taking place in Berlin, the capital of the German Democratic Republic. It is from here, from German soil, that the two most catastrophic wars in history emanated in the past. Here is where the sensitive borderline between the two strongest military coalitions of our time runs. A terrible potential of weapons of mass destruction is stockpiled in the center of Europe. Europe is the nuclear powder keg of our planet. This is why it has an urgent need for freedom from nuclear weapons.

Socialist and capitalist states are living on this continent in a joint house. Unfortunately, there is still a lot which disturbs peace and security. By means of the European treaties, a foundation was laid on which further construction may take place. We regard it as a matter of course that there are windows and doors, in this house, and elevators may also be required on occasion. The Helsinki Final Act is, as it were, the guiding text for the elaboration of a set of house rules, taking into account the interests of all sides.

I regard it as extraordinarily significant that many European politicians, personages from public life, representatives of the most varied political views and ideologies find a common language for the issue of war or peace. In this way, an extensive political dialogue has started up, in which there is a search for the best solutions to the problems of securing peace. The GDR participates actively in this, together with its friends and allies, and makes its proposals. Our aim is to guarantee equal security for all states. The path to this end leads through disarmament, starting with the most dangerous offensive weapons, and it should lead to structural incapability to attack, on both sides. In brief, we want to create peace with fewer weapons, from the Atlantic to the Urals.

One cannot overlook tactical nuclear weapons which will remain even after the double zero option, which number into the thousands. Our goal is and remains reduction of their numbers and finally their complete removal. The GDR has repeatedly submitted proposals to European states to promote nuclear disarmament. In this context I recall my proposals of last December to the FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Experience has shown since the end of the seventies that the deployment of nuclear weapons in central Europe has in no way brought more security. Promoting the retention of a minimum of such weapons as a basic condition for security means, in the end, opening the door wide to a proliferation of these terrible weapons, not to speak of the nuclear battlefield weapons which

could spark a global nuclear blaze. Thus, not much time remains to act for a nuclear weapons-free world. We must use every initiative which takes us further in this direction.

A nuclear weapons-free corridor on the dividing line between the alliances can, under existing circumstances, become a decisive link to farther-reaching steps toward nuclear disarmament, and to its extension to tactical nuclear weapons, on which there have so far been no negotiations, as well as to reducing conventional forces and arms. In the event of the nuclear powers retaining nuclear weapons, a nuclear weapons-free corridor would also serve to stem the tide of the nuclear arms race.

Liberating central Europe from nuclear weapons is in the well-understood security interests of all Europeans. Military confrontation on our continent would be tangibly reduced by the corridor. The process of confidence-building would be deepened. There would be more room for further disarmament. The period of forewarning would be increased. The danger of surprise attacks would decrease. It is worthwhile, therefore, for all states, large and small, to consider seriously these possibilities and prospects. We are of the opinion that all nations and states would gain in security.

It is self-evident that, in any case, nuclear weapons-free zones require the constructive assistance of the nuclear powers concerned. It is a great encouragement to our efforts that on 10 April 1987 Mikhail Gorbachev officially declared the readiness of the USSR to withdraw its nuclear weapons from a corridor which was formed, and to respect and guarantee its nuclear weapons-free status.

In order to improve conditions for steps of this kind in central Europe, and in particular to stabilize the situation further on the dividing line between the alliances, the GDR would welcome the setting up of mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of crises and the prevention of military incidents in central Europe. There could, for example, be a "hotline" between Prague, Berlin, and Bonn, a permanent joint body with the goal of exchanging data on relevant military activities in the region, if you like, a center equipped with the relevant technology for permanent confidence-building. The development of these thoughts could be included in future negotiations on confidence- and security-building measures.

The GDR will continue to contribute to strengthening peace and reducing the greatest threat to it, nuclear weapons, and to finally eliminating them. We are working for this here in Europe. However, one cannot judge things in the world solely according to European criteria. Freedom from nuclear weapons is a global problem, as we all know. This international meeting bears witness to this.

International security can no longer be achieved and maintained against one another, but only together. Communists and social democrats, representatives of the

bourgeoisie, believers of all religions, artists and scientists, politicians and statesmen have come to this conclusion. We must act in accordance with it.

Let us together use the historical opportunity to advance disarmament and cooperation. Let us together do everything to remove forever nuclear weapons, this scourge of humanity, from the world. May the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones perform a valuable service to the great cause of peace, reason, and realism.

Thank you for your attention.

USSR Official Speaks

*LD2006164688 East Berlin ADN in German
1302 GMT 20 Jun 88*

[*"Speech by Petr Nilovich Demichev, Candidate Member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on 20 June 1988"—ADN headline*]

[Text] Berlin, 20 Jun (ADN)—The text of Petr Demichev's speech is as follows:

Dear Comrade Honecker,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Comrades,

The Soviet leadership has given me the task of sincerely thanking Comrade Erich Honecker and our friends from the GDR for the initiative on the "International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones." Allow me to read the message of greetings from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

"To the participants in the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones:

"Please accept my best wishes at the start of your meeting. The historic Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles has come into force. We should not reduce speed; we must proceed dynamically along the direction indicated.

"The Soviet Union is fully prepared to give up its status as a nuclear power, together with the other nuclear countries, as soon as possible. However, as long as we still have this status we are prepared to radically restrict its practical manifestations. Included in this is support for nuclear weapons-free zones and giving relevant guarantees to states participating in them.

"The value of nuclear weapons-free zones lies in their being able to contribute to restricting the area of nuclear preparations, to moving apart the nuclear forces of the opposing alliances, and thereby to reducing the risk of a nuclear conflict. Their formation develops international

confidence, serves stability in relations between the nuclear powers, and consolidates the regulation of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

"I am convinced that your international meeting will give new impetus to this process.

"M. Gorbachev"

The meeting in Berlin is taking place at a time when the enormous mountain of realities of the nuclear age giving cause for concern has not yet been removed. However, the epoch of nuclear disarmament has already dawned. By this I mean the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow and the coming into force of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. This treaty is the first international agreement in history which envisages the destruction of two classes of nuclear weapons belonging to the USSR and the United States.

A convergence of attitudes on some aspects of reducing strategic offensive weapons, while adhering to the ABM Treaty, on limiting and stopping nuclear weapons testing, and on banning chemical weapons, was achieved in Moscow.

The summit in Moscow was also a step forward toward a new quality in Soviet-U.S. relations, which contributes to the two superpowers changing from focuses of confrontation to partners in the search for a solution to seemingly fateful current conflicts. This meeting doubtless also expanded the possibilities for creating a favorable political climate on a worldwide scale.

Throughout the whole world, hopes are increasing of banishing the danger of a nuclear inferno which hangs over humanity. Many existing public opinions are changing. The realities of the nuclear age, the objective necessity for qualitatively new approaches to solving basic security problems, have caused the cliches of the old political thinking to be shaken to their foundations.

The point is to make all these processes irreversible. First of all, it is important to renounce the policy of strength. The social, political, and cultural multiplicity of the world of today has to be recognized by all. All must recognize the right of each nation to choose its social order freely. Mutually advantageous cooperation on an equal basis must become a firm principle of life for all countries and nations.

Mankind has a long path before it to a world free of violence and nuclear weapons. The creation of nuclear weapon-free zones is a concrete expression of goodwill and reason, of a new approach to solving the most difficult international problems and rejection of the policy of strength. There is great moral force in this, the force of an example of civilized international behavior.

The peoples of the world see the declaration by Mikhail Gorbachev of 15 January 1986, in which a program for the step-by-step removal of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 is proposed, as a true manifesto of new political thinking and new morality. Today we can state with satisfaction that this program, the Soviet Union's idea of creating a comprehensive system of international security, and the other significant initiatives which we together with the socialist fraternal countries have agreed upon and put forward is now being turned into practice in a step-by-step way.

The path to a world without nuclear weapons has gained support at the UN, particularly from the Group of 77, the Nonaligned Movement, and among influential social organizations and movements. All over the world the view is gradually gaining ground that a nuclear war is senseless and irrational, that there can be neither victors nor vanquished, because it would mean the end of human civilization. Moreover, one must be fully aware that even a conventional war would be much the same as a nuclear war nowadays, both because of the growing destructive power of these weapons and because of the ever greater number of nuclear power plants in various regions. The struggle for comprehensive international security, a world without nuclear weapons and the creation of nuclear-free zones are seen by world public opinion as processes which are interlinked, dependent on each other. It is quite natural that the real successes in nuclear disarmament strengthen the movement for nuclear-free zones. This is proven also by our highly representative meeting. Parliaments are also getting more and more actively involved in this process. In this connection, one could mention the Sofia meeting of parliamentarians from the CSCE states of 31 May to 2 June of this year.

Important steps have already been taken to prevent nuclear weapons being deployed in various areas. The 1967 treaty bans the deployment of nuclear weapons in space, on the moon, and other celestial bodies; and the 1971 treaty contains a ban on the deployment of these weapons on the seabed. The Antarctic treaty of 1959 made an entire geographical area virtually into a demilitarized zone. As mentioned here before, in 1967 the Treaty of Tlatelolco on the banning of nuclear weapons in Latin America was concluded, and in 1985 the South Pacific Forum endorsed the Rarotonga Treaty on a nuclear-free zone in that region. More and more frequently various places, cities, and areas are declaring themselves nuclear-free zones. Also a number of states' pledge not to produce nuclear weapons, to buy them, or to allow them to be deployed on their territory can only earn the respect of world public opinion.

The Soviet Union genuinely supports the struggle of states and peoples to protect themselves from being hurled into a nuclear inferno by creating nuclear-free zones. For us, this is a fundamental issue. This guiding principle was adopted in the party program for the 27th CPSU Congress.

Our country is the initiator of and signatory to the first three treaties named and is a guarantor of the nuclear-free status in the two treaties named next. We urgently appeal to the states who have not yet signed these important international agreements to sign them now. This appeal is directed equally to those countries who make up the minority in the world community who up to now have not signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

There are many in the world who doubt the efficacy of nuclear-free zones.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it has an active and constructive attitude toward this issue. The USSR has solemnly declared that it will not be the first to use nuclear weapons and that it will never under any circumstances use them against nonnuclear states which do not allow deployment of nuclear weapons on their territory. Our obligations in relation to nuclear-free zones are also framed along these lines. The unification of the efforts of nuclear and nonnuclear countries and political forces on the state and social levels is making nuclear-free zones an important factor in the prevention of a war.

Practical steps for the creation of nuclear-free zones are dependent to a significant degree on the respective attitudes of the members of military alliances whose forces are equipped with nuclear arms. In a memorandum which was placed before the third UN special session on disarmament, the Warsaw Pact states once again came out in favor of "supporting the initiative of the states of the respective regions to create nuclear-free zones."

We have pointed out that at the disarmament conference in April 1986, the NATO countries declared that one must "promote the creation of nuclear-free zones that will strengthen general security and stability, which will serve the final aim of a world totally free of nuclear weapons." The consistent implementation of this attitude, above all by the NATO powers which possess nuclear arms, could help strengthen peace.

In 1986, the nonaligned states, in their Declaration of Harare, stressed that the creation of nuclear weapons-free zones was an important step on the path of disarmament. They supported all individual and regional initiatives and proposals which provide for such zones. Lastly, the opinion of the whole world community was expressed in the concluding document approved unanimously by the first special disarmament session of the United Nations General Assembly, now described as the disarmament charter. In this document, it is said that the formation of nuclear weapons-free zones is supported in order to achieve the final goal—the creation of a world free of nuclear weapons. As is known, in continuation of this general UN guideline, a number of resolutions were adopted which approve concrete initiatives for the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world.

Immediately there arises, quite legitimately, the question of why most initiatives for the creation of such zones have thus far not gone beyond the stage of projects and wishes. One of the main obstacles is the viewpoint that the creation of nuclear weapons-free zones could result in the weakening of nuclear deterrence and, as a result, not lessen but rather increase the danger of war.

Adherence to the doctrine of "nuclear deterrence" impedes the creation of nuclear weapons-free zones. This is why the view still prevails that nuclear weapons-free zones are merely a sort of "addition" to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which is not allowed to touch on deterrents.

Of course, nuclear weapons-free zones play an important, and constantly increasing, role in strengthening the regime of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. However, their importance is not limited to this.

In our view, the setting up of nuclear weapons-free zones has a positive influence on various aspects of world development. It strengthens trust at regional and international levels and favorably effects the solution of the whole complex of global problems. In the declaration of the Delhi Six on the principles of a world without nuclear weapons and force, which was signed on 27 November 1986 by Mikhail Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi, it is said: "Only disarmament can liberate the mighty additional resources which are necessary for combatting economic backwardness and poverty."

When states declare their countries and their regions to be nuclear-free zones, they are taking an important step to strengthen their national sovereignty and independence. By this means, they signal that their concern is with peace and that they are approaching the acute problems which mankind confronts in an effective and realistic way.

It is sometimes said that in view of the ability to transport nuclear weapons to every point on the globe, nuclear weapons-free zones are unrealistic and cannot guarantee security. This seems plausible, but only as long as some nuclear powers are not ready to give the corresponding guarantees, and as long as the setting up of nuclear weapons-free zones is disassociated from the joint struggle of the peoples for peace and disarmament. The creation of nuclear weapons-free zones should be seen as a trend within the process of the elimination of nuclear weapons. It cannot be overlooked that the setting up of nuclear weapons-free zones is especially important in regions where nuclear weapons are stockpiled. There, the creation of such zones is a form of action against the nuclear threat.

In regions where the armies of the military blocs border each other, nuclear weapons-free zones or a nuclear weapons-free corridor would be a very important measure to reduce the growing danger from the opposing troops.

In today's circumstances, a nuclear weapons-free zone means at the same time a real step toward a military doctrine which is not based on force. Nuclear weapons are not something which one can hold "in reserve." They are always ready for combat and can be used at any time.

Europe is a region where the danger of extreme concentrations of arms speaks for itself. I would like to remind you that the setting up of nuclear weapons-free zones in Europe has a long history. In 1956, the USSR proposed that the deployment of "nuclear units and any sort of nuclear or hydrogen weapon" be banned in central Europe. In 1963, Urho Kekkonen, President of Finland, put forward his idea of declaring northern Europe a nuclear weapons-free zone.

At the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, the USSR suggested setting up nuclear weapons-free zones on the European continent.

The USSR strongly supports the proposal by the GDR and the CSSR for the setting-up of a nuclear- and chemical weapons-free corridor in central Europe. We have stated our readiness to withdraw all Soviet nuclear weapons from this corridor and both to guarantee and to respect the nuclear weapons-free status.

Today the proposals for the creation of nuclear weapons-free zones are gaining particular topicality as another important way to free Europe of nuclear weapons.

In the opinion of the USSR, all the necessary conditions exist for putting the proposals into practice—declaring northern Europe a nuclear weapons-free zone, giving the Baltic the status of a nuclear-free sea, and taking appropriate measures in the areas bordering on the future weapons-free zone, including on Soviet territory.

The Balkan countries, we think, would feel more secure and calmer if the proposals by Bulgaria and Romania to turn that region into a zone in which there are neither nuclear nor chemical weapons were fulfilled.

Comrade Gorbachev's saying that Europe is our common house is increasingly being acknowledged by Europeans. We can clearly see the positive changes developing which offer possibilities to put into practice far-reaching initiatives for strengthening and developing comprehensive political, economic, and cultural cooperation among the countries of Europe.

Of course, our plans are not solely limited to Europe. As you know, the Soviet Union is making persistent efforts for reliable security in Asia and the Pacific as well as on the Indian subcontinent, and is putting forward various constructive proposals for stopping the hostilities in the Near and Middle East, the Persian Gulf, in southern Africa, and in Central America. The agreements on Afghanistan are a good example of how tensions in other areas can be removed. The USSR supports all positive

initiatives for consolidating peace in every region. The demands of the public and countries, which are becoming ever more pressing, to declare Africa, Southeast Asia, the Korean Peninsula, and the Middle East nuclear weapons-free zones have our full understanding.

We are unerringly sticking to the basic principle of the new political thinking that neither a nuclear war nor nuclear weapons can be a means of achieving any political goal. The only way to survive and to solve the global problems confronting humanity lies in understanding that security is a priority and urgent task for all mankind, for finding a balance for the legitimate interests of the nations on the basis of banishing war from human experience and setting up a world without nuclear weapons or violence.

The UN General Assembly third special session on disarmament currently taking place in New York—at which the Soviet Union has put forward a new program for joint actions and a series of precise proposals—is called upon to give strong impetus to general security.

We think it is time that nonmilitary guarantees for general security prevail, that the states accept a defensive strategy and recognize the principle of sufficient defense capability. We propose to start reducing conventional weapons with the removal of existing inequalities and asymmetries on the basis of exchanging information and verifying it, and to set the goal of removing foreign military presence and bases from abroad by the year 2000. We are prepared to work for the creation of an international authority under the auspices of the UN for the surveillance and verification of disarmament. And, of course, one of the most important tasks consists of preventing the deployment of weapons in space and the pollution of space. We are for real progress in regard to banning nuclear tests.

The CPSU 19th All-Union Conference will shortly take place, at which key issues of the current stage of restructuring in our country will be discussed.

There is an organic and immediate connection between restructuring in our country and the foreign policy directed toward democratizing and deeply humanizing international relations. In our critical reevaluation of the postwar processes, when we analyze the missed opportunities to stabilize the international situation and prevent the arms race, we would like to correctly assess the various ways of consolidating international peace and security and to unite the efforts of all those who are looking for ways out of the dangerous dead ends in international relations.

We believe in mankind's reason. Only by the united strength of all states and nations, of the most varied social forces, can the planet's peaceful future be secured. That is an imperative of the times, of today's political

wisdom which rejects fanaticism and egotism for the sake of mankind's highest interests. Life itself and all world civilization confirm this point of view.

I can say with certainty that with our united forces we will avert the danger of a nuclear inferno. I thank you for your attention.

Program of Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones Meeting Published

*AU2106141988 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 20 Jun 88 pp 1, 2*

[Text] Berlin (ND)—The prelude to the International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones is a plenary session on Monday. Later the participants will have the opportunity to speak on the factual issues of the conference and to participate in the exchange of opinions in the plenum, in commissions with definite topics, or at specific meetings.

On the second day of the conference, the nine commissions will convene. They deal with the topics "Nuclear-Free Zones as Possible Steps Toward a Nuclear-Free World," "Nuclear-Free Zones—Zones of Trust and Cooperation," and "Nuclear-Free Zones, Regional Conflicts, and Crisis Management." Further topics of the commissions are "Nuclear-Free Zones and Conventional Disarmament," and "Questions of Guarantees, Control, and Verification of Nuclear-Free Zones, and the Problem of Not Spreading Nuclear Weapons." The connection between "Nuclear-Free Zones and European Security" and the topic "Absence of Nuclear Weapons, Disarmament, and Overcoming Underdevelopment—Social Security," will be discussed, too.

Finally other commissions will deal with practical experiences with nuclear-free zones in Latin America and the South Pacific and their international importance, as well as initiatives to create nuclear-free and peace zones in Asia and Africa. These platforms of open discussion will conclude their work in the morning of the third conference day.

A panel discussion on Tuesday evening [21 June] will deal with the joint initiative of the SED, SPD, and CPCZ for a nuclear-free corridor and a chemical-weapon free zone in central Europe.

On the final day, eight specific meetings will provide the background for an exchange of opinions between the participants and the representatives of the host country. Oskar Fischer, GDR minister of foreign affairs, will meet official government representatives. Horst Sindermann, president of the People's Chamber, has extended an invitation for a meeting with parliamentarians. Harry Tisch, chairman of the FDGB National Executive Council; Ilse Thiele, chairwoman of the Democratic Women's

League of Germany; and Eberhard Auerbach, first secretary of the FDJ Central Council, will host meetings with trade unionists and representatives of women's and youth organizations.

Prof Dr Guenther Dre'ahl, president of the GDR Peace Council, is offering representatives of peace movements and organizations the opportunity for an exchange of ideas. Prof Dr Manfred Wekwerth, president of the GDR Academy of Arts; Prof Dr Werner Scheler, president of the GDR Academy of Sciences; and Prof Dr Max Schmidt, director of the International Politics and Economics Institute, will host a meeting with artists, persons engaged in the cultural sector, and scientists. Bishop Dr Christoph Demke, deputy chairman of the Conference of Evangelical Church Directorates in the GDR, will meet representatives of religious circles.

The international meeting will conclude with a plenary session on Wednesday afternoon [22 June], in which further participants will take the floor and the rapporteurs for the commissions will present their reports. The conference languages are German, Russian, English, French, Spanish, and Arabic. On Monday evening renowned artists of our Republic will perform a festive concert for the foreign guests in the Schauspielhaus Theater.

Honecker Meets With Guests at Berlin Meeting

Talks With FDP's Ronneburger

*LD2106142488 Hamburg DPA in German
1130 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Excerpts] East Berlin (DPA)—GDR head of state and party leader Erich Honecker and FDP politician Uwe Ronneburger held talks in East Berlin on Tuesday about intra-German issues, disarmament subjects, and the latest violence by GDR officials against Western journalists near the Brandenburg Gate.

During the conversation in East Berlin this afternoon the deputy chairman of the FDP Bundestag group gained the impression that Honecker considers the incidents as a strain on the International Meeting on Nuclear-Free Zones. Ronneburger told newsmen after the 45-minute conversation in the Council of State building that he hopes such incidents will not be repeated. Asked whether Honecker had repeated the sharp accusations by GDR newspapers against ARD and ZDF—such as inventions and fairy tales—the FDP politician said: "Such a formulation was not used (by Honecker)." [passage omitted]

After the talk Ronneburger said he assumes that Honecker knew in principle the facts of the events at the Brandenburg Gate. The Council of State chairman had not "commented specifically" on the incidents involving violence and obstruction of television teams, photographers for news agencies, and other correspondents. The two sides had not agreed "on all the assessments" of these incidents.

However, Honecker and Ronneburger are of the opinion that a positive development includes the greatest possible scope for the exchange of news between the two German states. It is an important objective to achieve confidence-building and disarmament. The agreements between Helmut Kohl and Honecker during the visit in Bonn, on increased joint cooperation, will continue to be in force.

More on Ronneburger Meeting
*LD2106174088 East Berlin ADN in German
1241 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, today received Uwe Ronneburger, Free Democratic Party [FDP] national executive member and deputy chairman of the FDP's lower house group in the FRG. Ronneburger is heading his party's delegation to the Berlin International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones.

During the frank exchange of views at the State Council building, the two sides praised the fact that the Moscow summit had resulted in the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles and that, for the first time, real steps toward nuclear disarmament had been introduced in which the GDR and FRG had made an important contribution.

The two German states, stressed Erich Honecker, would be fulfilling their joint obligation and responsibility toward peace if they now worked actively for further progress in the disarmament process. He welcomed the agreement on important issues, such as halving the number of strategic offensive weapons and stopping nuclear tests. The GDR attached great importance to regional solutions such as creating a corridor free of nuclear weapons and a zone free of chemical weapons. The proceedings of this Berlin meeting suggest that it has broad international support in this respect. It is in the security interest of both German states and all of Europe for the FRG to also participate constructively in this meeting.

Uwe Ronneburger described the Berlin meeting as a contribution toward improving the climate in the interest of dialogue and toward reaching an agreement, building confidence, and improving cooperation. He reaffirmed the attitude he had expressed the previous day on a nuclear weapon-free zone in central Europe. He spoke in favor of agreements being reached between the United States and the Soviet Union on reducing strategic offensive weapons by half, on liberating mankind from chemical weapons, and on stopping nuclear tests.

Present at the meeting were Guenter Rettner, SED Central Committee candidate member and head of the Central Committee Department for International Politics and Economics; and Heinz Eichler, State Council

secretary. Also present were Walter Rasch, FDP national executive member, and the head of the FRG's permanent mission, Dr Hans Otto Braeutigam.

Meets SPD's Bahr

*LD210619088 Hamburg DP i in German
1611 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—Uwe Ronneburger, FDP Bundestag group deputy chairman, and SPD disarmament expert Egon Bahr, were received today for talks by Erich Honecker, SED general secretary. During the talks, attacks on Western journalists by GDR officials were discussed, as were inter-German issues and disarmament subjects.

Bahr said after the meeting that it was now "Europe's turn for disarmament." It was "politically meritorious" of the East Berlin conference that it pointed out such disarmament efforts. Bahr viewed positively Honecker's suggestion to set up a "hot line" between East Berlin, Bonn, and Prague.

In connection with the incidents in front of the Brandenburg Gate, Honecker stressed that journalists' work should not be impeded. Honecker had "not been pleased" at the events of 19 June. According to Bahr's information, specific orders had been given by GDR authorities for the state not to intervene if young people from the GDR wanted to listen to the rock concert from the other side. Bahr's impression was that Honecker did not yet have any detailed information on Sunday night's events.

Hans Bausch, the FRG broadcasting authority chairman, made a strong protest today to the GDR Foreign Ministry concerning the obstruction of ARD correspondents in front of Brandenburg Gate on 19 June. According to the ARD press office, Bausch wrote that ARD colleagues had been exposed for a second time to attacks while carrying out their job, attacks during which "plain-clothes members of the GDR's security services used violence against reporters." The security forces' attacks were "a clear violation of the Helsinki Final Accords, which were signed by the GDR, and contradicted relevant agreements between the two German states."

The Swedish parliamentarian Sture Ericsson left the meeting in East Berlin prematurely because he was apparently not allowed to deliver a speech—although he had been promised the opportunity—demanding the dismantling of the wall. Ericsson, member of the Social Democratic Workers' Party, stressed in his address, which had already been delivered to those organizing the event, that if the GDR were to begin tearing down the wall, it would be a symbolic act of great significance for the future of Europe. He told DPA that he had been scheduled to deliver the third speech on Monday, after the lunch break, to the plenum of more than 1,000 participants.

GDR television broadcast the speeches live.

In the GDR Foreign Ministry it was claimed that there was "no known reason" for Ericsson's action. It was unimaginable to the conference leaders that the decision had been made for political reasons.

More on Talks With Bahr
*LD2106190888 East Berlin ADN in German
1528 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, this afternoon received Egon Bahr, member of the SPD Presidium, who is heading the SPD delegation to the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. Erich Honecker welcomed the SPD's active participation in the meeting and discussed with Egon Bahr how the two parties can give additional international momentum to their proposals, which were discussed in the joint working groups. The international meeting in Berlin is a large step forward in this area.

Erich Honecker stressed that the SPD's participation and Egon Bahr's contribution in the plenum on the 1st day are convincing proof that, despite differing views on social policy, Communists and Social Democrats are in far-reaching agreement on the central issue for mankind—the preservation and safeguarding of peace.

Egon Bahr said that the international meeting offers the opportunity of presenting the SPD's ideas and proposals on this important topic to a broad international audience. The SPD stands for disarmament and a security partnership. It agrees with Erich Honecker that following the Moscow meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan, there must be further disarmament steps.

Taking part in the talk were Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee; Heinz Eichler, secretary of the Council of State; and Gunter Rettner, candidate member of the SED Central Committee and director of the International Politics and Economics Department of the Central Committee.

Meets Greek Representative
*LD2106171488 East Berlin ADN in German
1223 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR Council of State chairman, had talks today with Minister Ioannis Kapsis, the personal representative of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, at the Council of State's official seat. The latter is participating in the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones in Berlin.

The two politicians agreed in stressing the need to allow no let-up in efforts toward disarmament after the Moscow summit. Minister Kapsis paid tribute to the GDR's varied peace initiatives.

He expected fresh impetus toward securing peace, detente, and cooperation from this Berlin meeting. Minister Kapsis conveyed cordial greeting, from the Greek prime minister to the Council of State chairman. Erich Honecker asked his guest to pass on his best wishes to Andreas Papandreou and reasserted the GDR's readiness to further develop relations in all areas with Greece.

Participating in the talks were Heinz Eichler, Council of State secretary, and Kurt Nier, deputy minister of foreign affairs. Francisos Verros, Greece's charge d'affaires in the GDR also attended.

Further Report
*NC2106195388 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
1830 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Alternate Foreign Minister Ioannis Kapsis, who is representing the Greek Government in Berlin at the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones was received this morning by Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR State Council. In the afternoon he also conferred with GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer.

Meets USSR's Demichev
*LD2106130888 East Berlin ADN in German
1102 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received this morning Petr Demichev, head of the Soviet delegation to the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. During the friendly meeting in the State Council building, Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, conveyed fraternal greetings from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Erich Honecker reciprocated the greetings just as warmly.

The Soviet guest paid tribute to Honecker's initiative in calling the international meeting, described as in keeping with the times, useful, and reflecting the active policy of peace pursued by the GDR. The meeting encourages dialogue between states and the most diverse social forces and gives fresh, strong impetus to the struggle for a world free of nuclear weapons.

Erich Honecker paid tribute to the USSR's support underlined in the greetings message from Mikhail Gorbachev to the Berlin meeting, for the creation of nuclear weapons-free zones and its restated readiness to give corresponding guarantees to the other participating

states. He welcomed the Soviet delegation's active participation in the international meeting, which once again demonstrates the shared striving to free the world of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Both politicians praised the high level of fraternal relations and the close, all-around cooperation between both parties, governments, and peoples, and emphasized their determination to continue to deepen and expand this in the future in the interests of peace and socialism.

The two sides briefed each other on the sixth plenary meeting of the SED Central Committee and the May plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, and preparations for its 19th conference.

Present at the meeting were Kurt Hager, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee; Guenter Sieber, Central Committee member and head of the SED Central Committee's Department for International Relations; and State Council Secretary Heinz Eichler.

Present on the Soviet side were Yuriy Khristoradnov, CPSU Central Committee member chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Yuliy Vorontsov, CPSU Central Committee member, and first deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Vyacheslav Kochemasov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the USSR in the GDR.

Receives PRC Delegation

LD2106171788 East Berlin ADN in German
1323 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee secretary and GDR State Council chairman, today held friendly talks with Zhou Peiyuan, the head of the PRC delegation taking part in the Berlin meeting. Zhou Peiyuan is vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament.

Zhou Peiyuan conveyed cordial greetings from Zhao Ziyang, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and Yang Shangkun, PRC president. Thanking him for this, Erich Honecker asked him to convey his best wishes to the representatives of the Chinese people.

Touching on the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones, Erich Honecker paid tribute to the participation of a representative delegation from the PRC in the comprehensive exchange of opinions in Berlin. It represents a significant contribution by the country to extending the international dialogue on questions of disarmament and securing peace.

During the talks, Erich Honecker briefed his guest on the results of the sixth meeting of the SED Central Committee and the great achievements by GDR workers in fulfilling the 11th SED Congress resolutions.

Zhou Peiyuan expressed the PRC's high opinion of the successes achieved in the GDR's social development and the GDR's great and active commitment to peace. He explained current tasks in building socialism, as resolved by the 13th CPC Congress. In this context, he stressed the necessity of guaranteeing the stable economic and political development of the country during the policy of reform and opening up.

The parties expressed their satisfaction at the dynamic development of bilateral relations on the basis of the agreements made at the highest level in 1986 and 1987.

Taking part in the talks were Guenter Sieber, member of and director of the International Relations Department of the Central Committee of the SED, and Heinz Eichler, secretary of the Council of State. Zhu Shangqing, deputy director of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the CPC and vice president of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament, and Zhang Dake, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the PRC to the GDR, were present.

Talks With 'Arafat

LD2106132188 East Berlin ADN in German
1120 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, today received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who is in Berlin for the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones.

Yasir 'Arafat stressed that the presence of a high-ranking PLO delegation at this important meeting demonstrates the PLO's support for international efforts for detente and disarmament. He praised the GDR's active work for dialogue and for securing peace in the world, and attributed great importance to the meeting in Berlin.

The PLO leader briefed Erich Honecker on the latest developments in the Middle East and expressed his great appreciation for the GDR's consistent support for the Palestinian people.

Erich Honecker stressed the need to convene an international conference on the Middle East under the aegis of the United Nations, which should be attended by all interested parties, including the PLO, on an equal footing. The GDR regards this as the appropriate way to reach a comprehensive settlement of the conflict in the Middle East region. The GDR State Council chairman

condemned the actions of the Israeli occupying powers in the unlawfully occupied territories. He underlined the GDR's attitude of solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

Present at the talk were Guenter Sieber, SED Central Committee member and head of the Central Committee Department for International Relations; Heinz Eichler, State Council secretary; and Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter. Also present were Sulayman al-Najjab, member of the Palestinian Communist Party Political Bureau of the PLO Executive Committee, as well as the PLO ambassador to the GDR, Dr Isam Kamil Salim.

'Arafat Comments on Talks

*LD2106153488 East Berlin ADN in German
1429 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—His talks with Erich Honecker were "very fruitful and very important," Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, told ADN and GDR television in Berlin today.

He used the opportunity to thank the chairman of the Council of State and through him the leadership and people of the GDR for their constant support for the Palestinian people's liberation struggle. Yasir 'Arafat announced that he discussed the further development of relations between the GDR and the PLO with Erich Honecker, and briefed him in detail on the results of the Arab summit in Algiers.

The PLO chairman assessed the Berlin meeting as very timely. He recalled that according to the revelations of an Israeli physicist who has since been arrested, Israel has at its disposal the largest nuclear potential in the Middle East, with more than 120 warheads, with which it can also reach central Europe, Asia and areas of the USSR as well. It is therefore particularly important to inform the world public of the dangers arising from this potential.

Receives Mozambican Premier

*LD2106171388 East Berlin ADN in German
1406 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, this afternoon received Mario de Graca Machungo, premier of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Politburo member and secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee. The Mozambican guest conveyed greetings from Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of the Frelimo party and president of the Mozambique People's Party, which were reciprocated with equal warmth.

Erich Honecker and Mario da Graca Machungo concurred in their view that the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones is making an important

and timely contribution toward securing peace and disarmament in the world. Both politicians praised the level of bilateral cooperation achieved and spoke out in favor of developing it further.

The discussion was attended by State Council Secretary Heinz Eichler, Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, and Julio Goncalo Braga, ambassador of the People's Republic of Mozambique in the GDR.

Meets Zambian Leader

*LD2106174188 East Berlin ADN in German
1600 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, this afternoon at the official seat of the Council of State received Zambian Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane, who is heading the Zambian delegation to the International Meeting for Nuclear-Free Zones as the personal representative of his country's president.

The Zambian guest conveyed cordial greetings from President Kenneth Kaunda, which were likewise reciprocated. A message from the president was accepted with thanks.

The two politicians discovered a high degree of agreement in an assessment of the basic issues of international politics. Touching on the International Meeting for Nuclear-Free Zones, Erich Honecker and Kebby Musokotwane underlined its great significance and topicality for securing world peace. The conviction was expressed that as an international forum of dialogue on peace and disarmament it would also have a positive influence on the peaceful settlement of conflicts.

The sides paid tribute to the state of bilateral relations and reasserted the will of both states to deepen their mutually advantageous cooperation.

Taking part in the meeting were Council of State Secretary Heinz Eichler; Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter; Member of Parliament J.E. Michelo; Wilson Julius Moyo, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Republic of Zambia in the GDR; and Zhenia Ndhlovu, member of the Central Committee of the United National Independence Party of Zambia-GDR Friendship Society.

Oskar Fischer Receives Foreign Representatives

Meets Cypriot Iakovou
*NC2106210988 Nicosia Domestic Service in Greek
1900 GMT 21 Jun 88*

[Text] Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou conferred with GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer in Berlin today, and briefed him on the latest developments in Cyprus.

Iakovou, who is in Berlin attending the International Conference on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones, was selected joint chairman of the subcommittee on European security.

In an address to the conference, Iakovou referred to the Cyprus issue and repeated the proposal for the demilitarization of the island, underlining that acceptance of this proposal would be the greatest possible contribution to terminating the Turkish occupation and to restoring peaceful cooperation and security in Cyprus and in the area.

During his meeting with Fischer, he discussed European and international problems, as well as bilateral realtions. Fischer reiterated the GDR's firm support for the government and the people of Cyprus in their struggle for a unified, sovereign, independent, territorially integral and nonaligned state.

Talks With Saudi Official

LD2106145388 East Berlin ADN in German
1227 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer today received for talks Dr. Salih 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Athil, representative of the King of Saudi Arabia. Dr. Al-Athil is president of the Saudi Academy of Sciences. He paid tribute to the GDR's contribution to the struggle for a peaceful and just solution to the conflict in the Middle East, and in the struggle for peace and disarmament.

They stressed that they agree on one approaching agreement on basic international questions and important regional problems. The partners in the talks discussed the possibilities for developing relations between the two countries.

Guests Address Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones Meeting

Hungary's Szuros Speaks
LD2106151888 Budapest MTI in English
1355 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, June 21 (MTI)—Starting from its objective endowments and fundamental political principles, Hungary is deeply interested in the establishment of a new, solid and cooperative European security, and it is ready to actively participate in this work in proportion with its opportunities, stressed Matyas Szuros, secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party in his Tuesday contribution delivered at the International Conference on Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones held in Berlin.

At the work group studying the relations between the nuclear-weapons-free zones and conventional disarmament, the secretary of the Central Committee of the HSWP pointed out that Hungary has no common border

with NATO member states and the Hungarian People's Army has neither nuclear nor chemical weapons, nor are such weapons deployed in the country. Despite these facts Hungary, as other countries of similar magnitude, can play a genuine role in alleviating military confrontation, mainly in the conventional disarmament process. We are sincerely interested in that Hungary be among the first who can reduce the military forces on their territories including the forces of their own and those of their allies, said Matyas Szuros.

He also emphasized that the alleviation of military confrontation and the reduction of nuclear threat is the most pressing in central Europe, on the border-line between the Warsaw Treaty organization and NATO. Hence the great importance of the joint proposal of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Social Democratic Party of Germany on the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free corridor in central Europe. The prevailing security policy conceptions were worded in the atmosphere of distrust and the fear of threat.

The secretary of the Central Committee of the HSWP took a stand for the renewal of security policy conceptions. Following the zero-zero option, the reduction of the conventional forces deployed in Europe can give a chance to progress on the road leading to the complete elimination of offensive armaments. In this respect the measures of limited military significance but building confidence are of particular importance especially at the beginning of this process, said Matyas Szuros.

PPR's Ciosek Gives Address

LD2106165988 Warsaw PAP in English
1425 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, June 21—The international meeting of a thousand representatives from 110 countries on creating nuclear-weapons-free zones resumed work in nine commissions in Berlin on Tuesday.

A Polish delegation, headed by alternate PUWP CC Political Bureau member, General Secretary of the National Council of the PRON Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth Stanislaw Ciosek, is taking part in the work of the commissions.

Today Ciosek delivered a speech to Commission Number One working on "nuclear-weapons-free zones—the possibility of taking steps for a world without nuclear weapons."

The subject of securing lasting peace ranks prominently in the foreign policy pursued by People's Poland. That is why Poland is consistently engaged in favour of disarmament and especially active in striving to eliminate nuclear weapons. I wish to stress that the first proposal which Poland tabled following World War Two at the U.N. as early as January 1946, pertained to precisely nuclear weapons, Ciosek said.

The concept of de-nuclearizing central Europe, known in the world as the Rapacki Plan of 1957, was born of exactly this paramount mainstream of Polish foreign policy, he went on.

The concepts contained in the Rapacki plan became an inspiration for similar disarmament undertakings in other parts of Europe and the world, such as the Tlatelolco and Rarotonga Treaties or the initiatives of nuclear-free zones in Scandinavia, the Balkans, the Mediterranean region, Africa and Asia, said he.

One could, therefore, state with full conviction that this plan has entered the history of the peace efforts of the international community, Ciosek told the meeting.

For the modern world and the ongoing disarmament dialogue, the announcement by Mikhail Gorbachev in January 1986 of the program of gradually but consistently putting into effect the vision of a world without nuclear weapons was of breakthrough significance, Ciosek pointed out.

The Moscow summit confirmed the expectations for a deepening and expansion of Soviet-American dialogue, he said.

Poland shows a will to actively partake in the process of consolidating security and building international confidence. The plan of decreasing armaments and increasing confidence in central Europe was presented by Wojciech Jaruzelski in 1987 with this in mind. Its essence is to transform military potentials into strictly defensive means of constructing the foundations of a system of common European security, the Polish representative continued.

The plan proposes to cover by appropriate undertakings also the field of conventional arms, military doctrines and confidence building measures.

As concerns nuclear weapons, it speaks out for a gradual reduction and next elimination of battlefield nuclear weapons as an exceptionally dangerous element of military potential which could serve in a surprise invasion, Ciosek said.

The open character of the plan and readiness for broad cooperation with all governments concerned and its taking account of the interests of each state, allow one to cherish a hope that it will constitute a concrete contribution to the enhancement of confidence and cooperation between nations, and strengthening peace and security throughout the world, Ciosek stated.

Poland lends its full support to all regional disarmament initiatives aimed at creating nuclear-free zones, especially in the most sensitive regions of the world, Europe inclusive, Ciosek told the meeting.

PRC's Zhou Peiyuan Speaks

LD2006180788 East Berlin ADN in German
1432 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 20 Jun (ADN)—Zhou Peiyuan, vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and president of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament, described the preservation of world peace as the most important and urgent task facing mankind today. As a physicist he knows the monstrous destructive power of today's nuclear weapons only too well and is aware of the inferno which a war with nuclear weapons will bring upon civilization.

There are now signs of a certain detente in the international situation, Zhou Peiyuan said, pointed to the signing of the INF Treaty between the USSR and the United States and the recent fourth meeting of the leading representatives of the two states in Moscow. We hope, he said, that this dialogue retains its dynamism and that the United States and the Soviet Union make further progress on the road to reducing their strategic nuclear weapons and all other kinds of nuclear weapons.

In order to achieve real detente in the international situation, however, a long and complicated road still has to be travelled, on which there could also be setbacks.

In view of the accelerated modernization of nuclear weapons it is only natural that the people of the United States and the Soviet Union, which possess the most and the most modern nuclear weapons, demand that their countries accept their special responsibility to end the arms race and that they take the first step to halt nuclear weapon tests, to halt production and deployment of all kinds of nuclear weapons and to drastically reduce or eliminate all nuclear weapons in their own countries and in the areas outside their countries. China has recently summarized this standpoint in the demand for "three stops and a reduction." The realization of this will create favorable conditions for convening an international conference on nuclear disarmament with the broad participation of all nuclear weapon states at which a general ban on and the complete destruction of all nuclear weapons could be discussed.

The PRC representative said that at the present time many states are calling for the creation of nuclear-weapons-free zones. This reflects the justified desire of the regions and countries concerned to ward off the danger of a war with nuclear weapons and to guarantee peace and security. China will respect all such accords if they come about through consultations between the countries of these regions, Zhou Peiyuan said. China has committed itself not to use nuclear weapons against countries or regions not possessing nuclear weapons and to renounce the first use of nuclear weapons. His country has signed and ratified Supplementary Protocol 2 to the

treaty banning nuclear weapons in Latin America. Furthermore, last year China signed Protocols 2 and 3 to the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific.

He expressed strong support for linking the struggle for nuclear disarmament with the efforts for conventional disarmament.

China is well aware of the strong desire of the European peoples to prevent a war and to bring about disarmament. The GDR people, under the leadership of the SED and Comrade Erich Honecker, have submitted many useful proposals and initiatives and have made great efforts for progress in disarmament, for lessening tensions in the world, for preserving peace in Europe and the world and to prevent a war again starting from German soil. We fully agree with all these efforts and initiatives, the speaker stressed.

Pointing to the link between world peace and the security of all countries, Zhou Peiyuan said that China is opposed to any form of interference in the internal affairs of another country. After the agreed withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, it is now time to withdraw all foreign troops from Cambodia. He demanded that the South African and Israeli troops immediately leave the territories of other countries which they are occupying.

The Chinese representative named among other things as a concrete contribution of his country to peace and security the reduction 2 years ago of the armed forces by a million and the reduction of the share of defense spending in the state budget from 17.5 percent in 1979 to 8 percent this year. All countries, whether large or small, whether they possess nuclear weapons or not, should have an equal part in the discussion and solution of problems of peace and disarmament and can make a contribution to world peace. China will unwaveringly continue its independent peaceful foreign policy.

DPRK's Ho Tam Speaks
SK2206104888 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1026 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau, and secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, who is heading a DPRK delegation made a speech at the international conference on the establishment of nuclear-free zones now being held in the GDR.

He expressed thanks to respected Comrade Erich Honecker for having directed attention in his speech to the situation on the Korean peninsula and supported the efforts to build a nuclear-free, peace zone there.

Efforts are being made to settle in a peaceful way disputes in various regions of the world today, yet, the situation on the Korean peninsula has not improved but is being exacerbated as the days go by, he noted.

He pointed out that in recent years the United States has reinforced its armed forces and massed nuclear weapons in South Korea and thus turned its whole land into a nuclear base, while laying a particular stress on the military strategic position of South Korea. He referred in detail to the deployment of more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons of different kinds in South Korea.

He stated: Now the United States prattles as if South Korea needed its forces and nuclear weapons because of "threat from the North", but it is clear to everyone that our Republic which sets it as its basic policy to achieve peace and peaceful reunification cannot have an intention to "invade the South" and "southward invasion" itself is impossible.

It is evident that if a nuclear war breaks out in Korea under the condition where the world is linked closely as it is today, the whole of Asia, to say nothing of northeast Asia, can never be in peace and hundreds of millions of people will suffer from nuclear holocaust. All the people who love peace and value justice should realistically see such grave developments on the Korean peninsula.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have made all sincere efforts to realize the peaceful reunification of the country, the cherished desire of the nation, and safeguard peace and security on the Korean peninsula, Asia and the world. They clarified the stand of building a nuclear-free, peace zone in the Northeast Asian region and the Korean peninsula.

Saying that the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons should be withdrawn from South Korea at an early date and the Korean peninsula turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone in order to remove the danger of a nuclear war and ensure peace in Korea, he went on: the United States has no justification to introduce nuclear weapons into South Korea and turn it into a nuclear base, standing face to face with us, non-nuclear state. If nuclear weapons in South Korea are directed against other socialist countries, the United States has to withdraw them from South Korea too, at a time when it signed an INF Treaty with the Soviet Union.

Now that the Soviet Union clarified its stand that it would guarantee non-nuclear position on the Korean peninsula together with other nuclear powers in case a nuclear-free zone is established in this region, the United States must respond to it.

He expressed the expectation that the governments and political parties of all the peaceloving countries including the fraternal socialist and non-aligned countries, international organisations and groupings, progressive figures and people would extend powerful support and solidarity for the Korean people's efforts to clear South Korea of U.S. forces and nuclear weapons and convert the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

Referring to the urgent matters to be solved in removing the danger of a nuclear war and building nuclear-free world, he said that above all the process of nuclear disarmament which has already started should be accelerated to realize a complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

He stressed that the peoples of the socialist and non-aligned countries and all the peaceloving countries should firmly unite with each other and strengthen mutual solidarity, expand the movement for establishing nuclear-free, peace zones and wage a joint struggle more vigorously to clear their countries of foreign nuclear weapons and military bases.

He held that all the nuclear possessing countries in the world should implement strict obligation that they would not make unilateral nuclear attack and nuclear forestalling attack against non-nuclear state, as already manifested by the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, and unconditionally withdraw their nuclear weapons from foreign territories.

He also asserted that due attention should be paid to denuclearisation of regions in which huge nuclear armed forces with the great danger of nuclear war outbreak, such as tactical and field nuclear weapons are deployed and, along with them, disarmament be realised on the sea, seabottom, underground and all other facets of space and thus complete and comprehensive elimination of nuclear weapons should be achieved.

He stressed that the Workers' Party of Korea, the DPRK Government and the Korean people would continuously and resolutely struggle to build a new world independent and peaceful free from aggression, war and nuclear weapons, in firm unity with the peoples of the socialist and non-aligned countries and other world peaceloving people, holding aloft the banner of independence, friendship and peace in the future, too.

Syria's Qaddur Gives Address
JN2206075688 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin—Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, has affirmed that the Middle East region constitutes the most serious hotbed in the world as a result of the Zionist enemy's expansionist and aggressive policy and its flagrant violation of the international law and the UN Charter and resolutions. Addressing the International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones in Berlin yesterday, Qaddur appealed to the conferees to pay attention to the Israeli nuclear armament in light of the danger posed by Zionism, and to vigorously condemn the enemy's refusal to join the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its refusal to place its nuclear facilities under international supervision.

Qaddur added that the Zionist enemy is destroying every international effort to establish nuclear-free zones in the Middle East. He said that achieving security and peace in the region depends on bringing about a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He said the Arabs are determined to continue their efforts to convene an effective and fully authorized international peace conference in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace, the withdrawal of the Zionist occupation forces from all the occupied Arab territories, and to attain the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

Qaddur also referred to the importance of the peace initiative announced by President Hafiz al-Asad to turn the Mediterranean Sea into a sea of peace and friendship over which seagulls, and not the planes of killing and destruction, hover, and in which ships communicating among nations, not carrying the means of killing and destruction, sail. Qaddur also expressed his appreciation for the GDR's efforts to achieve nuclear disarmament and social security and stability in the world.

The conference has set up nine committees to carry out its work and Syria was elected to chair the third committee entrusted to conduct discussions on establishing nuclear-free zones and eliminating regional disputes.

Qaddur held talks with GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer on bilateral relations and ways to promote them.

LCY's Stojanovic Meets With SED's Jarowinsky
LD2106200488 Belgrade TANJUG in Serbo-Croatian
1441 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (TANJUG)—During the International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones in Berlin, Dr Stanislav Stojanovic, executive secretary of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee, had a meeting with Werner Jarowinsky, member of the SED Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

The conversation focused on the course of the Berlin meeting as it relates to Europe, on a number of topical international issues, and on the issues of advancing bilateral SFRY-GDR relations.

Further on Berlin Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones Meeting

Honecker, Ho Tam Confer
LD2206122888 East Berlin ADN in German
1043 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 22 Jun (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, had a friendly talk this morning with Ho Tam, secretary of the Korean Workers' Party [KWP] Central Committee and member of its Politburo, and head of the DPRK delegation to the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones.

Ho Tam conveyed cordial greetings from Kim Il-song, general secretary of the KWP Central Committee and president of the DPRK, which were reciprocated with thanks by Erich Honecker.

Both partners in the talks evaluated favorably the dynamic development of bilateral relations, the basis of which is the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation and the agreements made at the highest level.

Erich Honecker stressed solidarity and support for the initiatives of the DPRK for peace and detente on the Korean peninsula, including the proposal for creating a nuclear weapons-free zone in that region. He referred with satisfaction to the agreement between the two states on the basic questions of international politics. He stressed that today only arms limitation and disarmament can prevent a nuclear catastrophe and safeguard peace. The Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow created the prerequisites for continuation of the disarmament process.

Erich Honecker thanked him for the DPRK's high estimation of the GDR's active policies for peace and disarmament.

During the talk, Ho Tam briefed Erich Honecker on the efforts of Korean workers to realize the tasks of the Third 7-Year Plan, and on their achievements in making worthy preparations for the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, which will be celebrated in September of this year. Erich Honecker referred to the positive development in the GDR toward realization of the resolutions of the 11th SED party conference, and commented on the further tasks in strengthening socialism in the GDR.

Also taking part in the friendly talks were Guenter Sieber, member of the SED Central Committee and director of the International Relations Department of the Central Committee; Heinz Eichler, secretary of the Council of State; and Kwon Min-chun, first deputy director of the International Relations Department of the KWP Central Committee; and Pak Yong-chan, ambassador of the DPRK in the GDR.

Stop Receives Nguyen Huu Tho
BK2206153588 Hanoi VNA in English
1517 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 22—Nguyen Huu Tho, vice-president of the State Council, was received in Berlin on June 21 by Willi Stoph, Political Bureau member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Vice-President Nguyen Huu Tho is in the GDR capital for the International Meeting for the Establishment of Nuclear-Free Zones.

Willi Stoph welcomed the positive contributions of the Vietnamese delegation to the meeting.

Nguyen Huu Tho spoke highly of Erich Honecker's initiatives and the GDR's efforts in the struggle for disarmament and peace in Europe and other parts of the world.

The two sides expressed their hope that the results of the Berlin meeting would help in speeding up the process of disarmament, and reaffirmed the solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the parties and peoples of the GDR and Vietnam.

Fischer Meets Iranian Adviser

LD2206183088 Tehran IRNA in English
1744 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 22. IRNA—Presidential High Advisor Mostafa Mir Salim, currently visiting the German Democratic Republic conferred with that country's Minister of Foreign Affairs Oskar Fischer in East Berlin Tuesday.

Mir Salim is in GDR to participate in the international conference on nuclear-free zones.

The Iranian official explaining the Islamic Republic's foreign policy stressed on the need for establishment of relations with progressive countries within the framework of the revolution's Islamic principles.

In response, Fischer described Iran's presence at the conference as a boost for global peace and emphasised on expansion of friendly ties between the two countries.

In another development, Mir Salim held talks with president of the GDR Parliament (Volkskammer) Horst Sindermann the same day.

Mir Salim said at the meeting that deployment of nuclear weapons lurks as a probability, whereas, the Iraqi regime's crime of chemical bombardment is a grim reality with which the world is faced at present. "Therefore the need for effectively banning these lethal weapons is the need of the hour," he added.

Concrete measures should be taken for condemning deployment of internationally-banned toxic substances, he said emphatically.

In response, the East German parliamentary official said the use of chemical weapons, in any time and under whatever circumstances must be denounced.

Campaign against use of lethal gases should be given special importance and utmost priority, Sindermann noted.

Mir Salim arrived in East Berlin on Monday at the head of a delegation.

Sindermann Welcomes Legislators
LD2206134288 East Berlin ADN in German
1013 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 22 Jun (ADN)—Late this morning Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, and deputy chairman of the Council of State, cordially welcomed about 100 parliamentarians from all parts of the world to a meeting in the supreme body of popular representation in the GDR.

In his welcoming address he stressed that the Berlin International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones impressively confirms the need for the policy of dialogue. The response to Erich Honecker's initiative shows that the topic has great attraction. The large number of speakers at the meeting's forums reflects the need to express opinions, and to add one's own thoughts to this topic. We need peaceful cooperation, not nuclear threats, and parliamentarians especially have great experience in this sphere. Dialogue is a necessity for the existence of parliaments. This is being confirmed in excellent fashion here in Berlin.

Officials Receive Other Guests
LD2106194488 East Berlin ADN in German
1400 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—Members of the GDR party and state leadership had numerous discussions in Berlin on Tuesday with foreign dignitaries attending the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones.

The meetings with representatives of states, parties, social organizations, and movements centered on joint efforts for a secure world without nuclear weapons, and for lasting peace.

Willi Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, met with Jan Martenson, director general of the UN office in Geneva and personal envoy of the UN secretary general.

Horst Sindermann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and president of the People's Chamber, met with Mostafa Mir Salim, envoy of the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran and vice president of the Islamic Republic of Iran [title as received]; Dr Jorge Zavala Baquerizo, parliamentary president of Ecuador; Horacio Duarte, envoy of the president of the Argentinian Chamber of Deputies; and Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, speaker of the Palestine National Council.

Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Maxime Gremet, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party; and with Louis Van Gety, chairman of the Communist Party of Belgium.

Horst Dohius, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Dhimitrios Christofias, general secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL).

Werner Felfe, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Ole Sohn, chairman of the Communist Party of Denmark.

Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Petr Demichev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who is leading the Soviet delegation; and with Yuriy Khristoradnov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Werner Jarowinsky, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Mir Sahib Karwal, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan; and with Anker Joergensen, representative of the Social Democratic Party of Denmark and chairman of the parliamentarians' committee for a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe.

Guenther Kleiber, member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, met with Mario de Graca Machungo, prime minister of the People's Republic of Mozambique, member of the Politburo, and secretary of the Central Committee of the Frelimo Party.

Egon Krenz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Salim Salih Muhammad, deputy secretary general of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party.

Werner Krolikowski, member of the Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, met with Gheorghe Radulescu, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the RCP and vice president of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Romania; and Enya Kategaya, authorized representative of the president of the Republic of Uganda and first deputy prime minister.

Erich Mueckenberger, member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee, met with Tsgerendashiy Namsray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and deputy chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural; and with Sergio de Morais and Almir Neves, members of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Brazilian Communist Party.

Guenter Schabowski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Mohamed Karboul, authorized representative of the

president of the Republic of Tunisia and member of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Destourian Rally; Joern Svensson, chairman of the Party Executive of the Communist Left Party, deputy of the Riksdag, and representative of the Communist Left Party's Riksdag members; and Dhimitrios Gondikas, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece.

Harry Tisch, member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the National Executive Council of the FDGB, met with Ahmad Jallud, secretary general of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions, and with other leading trade unionists taking part in the international meeting.

Inge Lange, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, met with Boubacar Diallo, authorized representative of the President of the Republic of Mali and deputy secretary general of the People's Democratic Union.

Other representatives of the GDR Government, parties and mass organizations collaborating in the National Front, and other social and cultural establishments, had friendly talks with foreign participants in the international meeting.

Further Talks Noted

*LD2206201288 East Berlin ADN in German
1500 GMT 22 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, 22 Jun (ADN)—Members of the SED Central Committee Politburo, leading representatives of all parties and mass organizations working in the National Front, members of the GDR Government, and other political and social figures conducted talks again on Wednesday with participants in the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones. As part of the great political dialogue in Berlin these days, they discussed with representatives of states, parties, social organizations, and movements, ways to secure peace and avert a nuclear inferno, as the most important issue of world politics.

The talks were conducted by:

Horst Sindermann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and president of the People's Chamber, with:

Mohamed Hawadhleh Madar [name as received], first vice president of the Somali People's Assembly and representative of the Somali president; Ranji Chandisingh, vice president and deputy prime minister of the Republic of Guyana, and representative of the Guyanese president; and Mikhail Stefanidis, first vice president of the Greek Parliament;

Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, with:

Herbert Mies, chairman of the DKP; Jarmo Wahlstrom, chairman of the Communist Party of Finland; and Raghunandan Lai Bathia, president of the India-GDR Friendship Society;

Werner Felfe, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, with:

Petur Tanchev, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian State Council and chairman of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union; Gordon McLennan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain; and Dr Matyas Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee;

Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, with:

Merlin Magallona [name as received], general secretary of the Philippines Communist Party Central Committee; and Bruno Bertini, member of the Central Control Commission of the Italian Communist Party (PCI);

Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and Minister of National Defense, with:

Eriya Kategaya, Ugandan first deputy prime minister and representative of the Ugandan president; Ho Tam, member of the Politburo of the Korean Workers' Party Central Committee; and Dr Walther Stuetzle, director of the Stockholm International Peace and Conflict Research Institute (SIPRI);

Guenther Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, with:

Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, member of the Egyptian Shura Council; and Dr Salimin Amour, secretary of the Tanzanian Revolutionary Party Central Committee and representative of the Tanzanian president;

Guenter Mittag, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, with:

Josef Kempny, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, chairman of the Czech National Council, and chairman of the CSSR National Front Central Committee;

Erich Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, with:

Markus Aaltonen [name as received], parliamentarian, chairman of the parliament's foreign policy committee, member of the Social Democratic Party of Finland; and Rizq al-Batayneh [name as received], chairman of the Jordanian parliament's foreign policy committee;

Alfred Neumann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, with:

Dr Hasan Makki, YAR [Yemen Arab Republic] deputy prime minister and representative of the YAR president; and Sebastiao da Silva Isaca, head of the International Relations Department of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola Central Committee;

Harry Tisch, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the FDGB National Executive Council, with:

Trade union representatives who took part in the international meeting.

Japanese Group Attends
OW2106011988 Tokyo KYODO in English
1056 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, June 20 (KYODO)—Over 1,000 delegates from governments, political parties and peace movement organizations in 111 countries across the world gathered here Monday to open a three-day conference on establishment of international nuclear-free zones.

The conference was proposed by East German leader Erich Honecker as part of the stepped-up disarmament movement, following the conclusion of a U.S.-Soviet treaty on abolition of the intermediate-range nuclear force (INF), which took effect on June 1.

The Berlin conference is especially designed to help abolish tactical nuclear weapons with a range of less than 500 kilometers, which will be the next subject of debate after the INF pact went into effect.

After speeches by Honecker and United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, a message sent by Hitoshi Motoshima, mayor of the Japanese city of Nagasaki, was read. Nagasaki and Hiroshima were atomic bombed in 1945 during World War II.

The Nagasaki message appealed for strenuous and concerted efforts transcending nationality, race and ideology toward abolishment of nuclear weapons, as well as recommending peace education for young people.

Also a message came from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, which pledged his support for the creation of nuclear-free zones.

Japanese conference participants included Masashi Ishibashi, former chairman of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), Hideo Den, representative of the United Social Democratic Party, as well as city assembly members of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and atomic bomb survivors from these two western Japan cities.

West Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) and the Green Party sent delegates, but the ruling camp did not.

Honecker Delivers Speech

LD2206214088 East Berlin ADN in German
1753 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 22 Jun (ADN)—After the conclusion of the 3-day Berlin International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones, Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR Council of State and general secretary of the SED Central Committee, gave a reception on Wednesday evening. Official participants in this world forum for peace took up the invitation to the Council of State on Marx-Engels Square.

Taking part in the reception, which was introduced by the GDR national anthem, were: Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers; members and candidate members of the SED Central Committee Politburo Hermann Axen, Horst Dohlus, Werner Felske, Kurt Hager, Joachim Herrmann, Werner Jarowinsky, Heinz Kessler, Guenther Kleiber, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolkowski, Guenter Mittag, Erich Mueckenberger, Guenter Schabowski, Harry Tisch, Inge Lange, and Gerhard Schuerer; Prof Lothar Kolditz, president of the National Council of the GDR National Front; State Council Deputy Chairman Gerald Goetting, chairman of the CDU; Heinrich Homann, chairman of the NDPD; Dr Guenther Maleuda, chairman of the DBD [Democratic Peasants' Party of Germany]; and Hans-Dieter Raspe, deputy chairman of the LDPD [Liberal Democratic Party of Germany].

Also taking up the invitation were: Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer; Eberhard Aurnich, first secretary of the FDJ Central Council; Ilse Thiele, chairwoman of the DFD [Democratic Women's League]; Prof Guenther Drefahl, chairman of the GDR Peace Council; Prof Werner Scheler, president of the Academy of Sciences; Prof Manfred Wekwert, president of the Academy of Arts; Dr Christoph Demke, deputy chairman of the Conference of Evangelical Church Leaders of the GDR; Prof Max Schmidt, director of the Institute for International Politics and Economics; and other members of the SED Central Committee, the Council of Ministers, the Council of State, the Presidium of the People's Chamber, and the GDR National Committee for Preparations for the Meeting; as well as other figures. Erich Honecker said in his toast: I cordially welcome you, participants in the International Meeting for Nuclear-Free Zones that has just ended. The great and lasting interest which the world public is showing in our gathering demonstrates that our common efforts have been worthwhile.

Permit me to thank you, dear guests, once more, for your committed and well-informed work over the past 3 days, on behalf, simultaneously, of the members of the GDR's national preparatory committee, who represent all the classes and sections of our people and the most varied political parties, public organizations, and religious denominations. While we may not all be of the same opinion with regard to the ways and the pace of progress toward a nuclear-free world and with regard to the

expediency and practicability of nuclear-free zones, we are united in the desire for a world without war and force and without nuclear and chemical weapons.

Heads of state, governments, Parliaments, parties, organizations, and dignitaries from all continents have expressed in messages and statements their support for the Berlin meeting as a timely and important initiative. I believe that I am also speaking on their behalf when I describe that attitude as evidence of a high awareness of their responsibility for safeguarding peace and for the future of mankind. It strengthens us in our conviction that the findings, ideas, and stimuli which we have gained on the subject of freedom from nuclear weapons, in a frank and lively exchange of views and experience, will remain effective far beyond our meeting.

It was a great honor for us to be the hosts of a forum at which the efforts and initiatives for a nuclear-free world were discussed in all their breadth and variety. Let us continue the dialogue begun in Berlin and unite our endeavors, in order to take the fear of nuclear annihilation away from the peoples forever, and in order to open up for our children and our children's children a world without fear and hatred, a world of the peaceful coexistence of the peoples. The GDR is willing to play a committed part in shaping this process for peace.

I ask you to raise your glasses with me and drink to further progress in establishing a world without nuclear weapons, to peace and the happiness of all peoples, and to your well-being, esteemed guests, dear friends, and comrades.

Erich Honecker had cordial meetings and lively talks during the festive evening with guests from all over the world. Sergio Ramirez, vice president of the Republic of Nicaragua, presented Erich Honecker with greetings from Daniel Ortega and reported to him on the current situation in his country. Erich Honecker reciprocated the greetings and assured the Nicaraguan people of the firm solidarity of the GDR. Addis Tedla, member of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, handed Erich Honecker a greetings message from Mengistu Haile Mariam, which the host received with thanks and best greetings to the general secretary of the fraternal party. Ole Sohn, chairman of the Communist Party of Denmark, expressed his great satisfaction at the meeting in Berlin and affirmed that his party would fight for the goals discussed here. Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, emphasized the international influence of the Berlin meeting and stressed that it would achieve historic significance. Erich Honecker expressed gratitude for the cooperation of the USSR delegation.

Erich Honecker had a very friendly talk with Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya. Whether on earth or from the distance of outer space, the questions of mankind can be recognized everywhere, perhaps even more clearly from space, the cosmonaut said. She described her meetings in Berlin, where she was able to meet GDR pilot-cosmonaut Sigmund Jähn. Lyn Hume, organizer of the "Peace Squadron" of New Zealand, expressed thanks to Erich Honecker for his indefatigable activity and presented him with an illustrated book about her homeland. Dr Matyas Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, conveyed to Erich Honecker the greetings of the Hungarian representatives and their appreciation of this significant meeting in the GDR capital.

Erich Honecker had further meetings with Gabriele Mucchi, the Italian painter; Pastor Konrad Luebert of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation; Nguyen Huu Tho, vice chairman of the Council of State of the SRV; Marshal Francisco da Costa Gomes; M.S. Saathi, mayor of New Delhi; Boubacar Diallo, deputy secretary general of the Mali People's Democratic Union; Petra Kelly, Bundestag deputy for the Greens in the FRG; the retired general, Gerd Bastian, of the group "Generals for Peace and Disarmament"; Katja Ebstein, the singer; Dhimitrios Christofias, general secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus; Carl Mau, representative of the Lutheran World Federation; and other guests at the meeting.

Fischer Addresses Delegates

LD2306154188 East Berlin ADN in German
1302 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 22 Jun (ADN)—GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer pointed out in the Palace Hotel, in front of some 100 governmental representatives, the fact that speakers in the plenum as well as in the commissions of the Berlin meeting had advocated not more, but fewer weapons, and not rearmament but disarmament. At the meeting of representatives of heads of state and government, foreign ministers, and their deputies, he stressed that this is the correct way forward to a nuclear weapons-free world. The GDR belongs to the group of states, which, after the INF Treaty, consider tactical nuclear weapons to be dispensable without impairing anyone's security. The idea of a nuclear weapons-free corridor is also based upon these considerations. Regional progress cannot replace worldwide solutions, but the global solution could be helpful for the regional solution.

Austrian representative Dr Dietrich Bukowski, first deputy of the general secretary in the Foreign Ministry, welcomed, in principle, regional disarmament initiatives. In the nuclear age, a reasonable foreign policy must be a peace policy. For that reason, trust-building measures must include concrete steps toward disarmament.

Polish Deputy Foreign Minister Boleslaw Kulski considered the Berlin meeting an important step toward the inclusion of the whole of Europe in nuclear-free zones. He pointed out that this goal has had a central position in his country's foreign policy for more than 30 years.

Kebby Musokotwane, prime minister and representative of the president of the Republic of Zambia, said the African people welcome the efforts in Europe for nuclear disarmament. They are of great interest to the countries of his continent. In this connection, he called for the international public to take coordinated measures and sanctions against the world peace-endangering policies of South Africa. There is a threatening possibility that the apartheid regime possesses nuclear weapons. Kebby Musokotwane said that conferences like the Berlin meeting have a mobilizing effect on the peace movement in many regions of the earth.

Zhivkov Sends Message

AU2206135088 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 21 Jun 88 p 1

[Message from Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, to participants in the International Meeting for Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones held in Berlin; date not given]

[Text] I am particularly pleased to most sincerely greet you and to wish your highly authoritative forum successful work.

The Berlin meeting for nuclear-free zones is taking place in a period of radical changes. More than ever before the world is becoming aware that, despite existing differences and contradictions between individual countries and peoples, the world is mutually interrelated through the common interest in preserving the human race. The desire for lasting peace and common security, for the preservation of life and human civilization today is a political necessity of primary importance facing all states—great and small, nuclear, and non-nuclear states, facing the public in all countries.

The first step accomplished along the path toward a nuclear-free world is already a historical fact: The Soviet-American INF Treaty has been signed and ratified. The dynamic development of the dialogue between the USSR and the United States, reflected by the recent Moscow summit meeting, the positive trends which mark the whole spectrum of East-West relations are sources of new incentives in the struggle for the achievement of this goal.

These events create favorable conditions for the implementation of the idea of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world, transforming these zones into particularly important and necessary components of contemporary international relations. I am convinced that your meeting will contribute to the implementation of this lofty idea. I am confident that this meeting will support

our efforts for the transformation of the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons. You can rest reassured that the People's Republic of Bulgaria will persist in its indefatigable efforts in this direction being clearly aware of the fact that the Balkans are a part of Europe, a part of the world.

I would also like to assure you that our country will continue in the future to make its real contribution to the implementation of the proposals and initiatives on the establishment of nuclear-free zones in various regions of the world and that we will make our contribution in the spirit of the new political thinking and action.

I wish your meeting successful work.

Bulgaria's Tanchev Speaks

AU2106202688 Sofia BTA in English
1936 GMT 21 Jun 88

[“P. Tanchev's Speech at the Berlin Forum”—BTA headline]

[Text] Berlin, June 21 (BTA)—At the international meeting for nuclear-weapon-free zones, which continues here, spoke Mr Petur Tanchev, secretary of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union (BZNS) and first vice president of the State Council, who is heading the Bulgarian delegation to the meeting. The People's Republic of Bulgaria, he stressed, attaches exceptional importance to the nuclear-free-zones in the strategy for nuclear-free world, for the survival of mankind. There is no doubt that the establishing of such zones will have favourable effect on the overall international political climate, will strengthen trust and security, will contribute to the confirmation of peaceful coexistence. As an European state, Bulgaria leads an unflinching policy for turning the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear weapons. This policy takes into account the lessons from history and the present realities.

The Balkans are a strategic region where a number of wars have started, said Mr Petur Tanchev further on. Well-known in the past as Europe's powder keg, it has lived in peace for 43 years now. This is something new in the history of the Balkans, Europe and the world. Positive changes occurred in the political panorama of the Balkan peninsula. The political maturity of the Balkan peoples has grown, their desire to live in trust, good-neighbour relations and security also has grown, as well as to give an essential contribution to the efforts of mankind for a nuclear free world.

The leader of the Bulgarian delegation recalled the wide international response to Mr Todor Zhivkov's proposal of 1981 for a meeting of the leaders of the Balkan states which should discuss the ways for the turning of the region into a zone free of nuclear weapons. This highly humane initiative corresponds to the interests of all Balkan states and finds ever wider popularity and support. Of special importance is the fact that such a mighty

nuclear force as the USSR supports the idea of a nuclear-weapon-free Balkans and is ready to give the necessary guarantees, said Mr Petur Tanchev. As an important step toward a nuclear-free-Balkans he assessed the appeal by the leaders of Bulgaria and Greece, Mr Todor Zhivkov and Mr Andreas Papandreou, to the other Balkan states with the call for undertaking of measures for the elimination of the tactical nuclear weapons from that region. This is an example of cooperation and good-neighbour relations between two states of different social systems and military political alliances.

Mr Petur Tanchev pointed out the great importance of the joint initiative of Mr Todor Zhivkov and Mr Nicolae Ceausescu for proclaiming the Balkans a zone free of chemical weapons, its significance for the peaceful future of the region. He stressed that the idea for a nuclear-weapon-free Balkans was supported at the first forum in history of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Balkan states in Belgrade. An important role is played by the Bulgarian proposal for ecological protection of the Balkans. New opportunities for improvement of the situation in the peninsula have been opened with the Bulgaro-Turkish protocol signed in February this year.

The speaker expressed satisfaction over the growing popularity of the idea for nuclear-free-zones all over the world and stood in support of the Soviet initiative for elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the year 2000. He also expressed support for the initiatives of the other European states and political parties on the problems of nuclear-free-zones and disarmament in our continent. He voiced solidarity with the struggle for nuclear-weapon-free zones led by different parties, organizations and movements all over the world, and greeted the ideas for the establishing of zones free of nuclear weapons in the southern part of the Pacific and in Latin America.

The new foreign policy concept of the CPSU and the Soviet Union, proposed by the leader of the new political thinking, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, has an indispensable role in the movement for nuclear-weapon-free zones, the Bulgarian representative said further on. Thanks to its constructive initiatives only for several years [as received] a number of dogmas and stereotypes of the "cold war" and confrontation started to fall to pieces. The way for fruitful dialogue for search of balance of the interests, for restructuring, democratization, humanisation and demilitarization of international relations, for equality and equal security is opened.

We understand, said Mr Petur Tanchev, that considerable obstacles and difficulties stand before the establishing of nuclear-weapons-free zones he called for united, energetic actions of the widest political and public forces for the overcoming of these barriers. We don't share the opinion of those circles, continued the speaker, who think that nuclear-weapon-free zones can be established only after the solution of the problems of nuclear disarmament on global scale. This position renounces the

opportunities for stage-by-stage resolution of big questions of disarmament, as well as the contribution of small and medium size states, and in fact they are the majority, which they can give for the limitation of arms race and the proliferation of mass destruction weapons.

We are convinced, said in conclusion Mr Petur Tanchev, that the forum in Berlin will give important contribution to the uniting of anti-military and anti-nuclear forces, to the consolidation of the peaceful coexistence between peoples. He assured the participants in the meeting that in the face of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian public the struggle for peace and for nuclear-weapon-free zones has a resolute champion who will continue to work for the complete success of this idea.

Polish Official Gives Speech

*LD2206221488 Warsaw PAP in English
2108 GMT 22 Jun 88*

[Text] Berlin, June 22—On the last day of the debates of the international nuclear-free zone conference here Poland's foreign vice-minister Boleslaw Kulski took the floor to stress the influence of the Rapacki Plan on the development of the concepts of nuclear-free zones.

He said "Poland, like other medium-size and small states which have no nuclear arms, is interested in the implementation of regional reduction plans in the military-political sphere because of the following reasons:

Firstly, in return for the voluntary and partial self-limitation of sovereign rights ensuing from territorial supremacy the Polish territory, like territories of other states included in a zone, would gain additional guarantees protecting it against a possible attack, and particularly against a nuclear strike.

Secondly, the formation of a zone of limited armaments or of confidence building and security, irrespective of concrete decisions, would be an act which makes preparations for war more difficult, preventing nuclear conflicts in Europe.

Thirdly, the formation of zones of limited armaments and security, through the withdrawal from agreed areas of specified weapons which have been installed there already, would contribute to the construction of a system based on the interdependence of security interests and constant elimination of a threat ensuing from Western concepts which regard Europe as a potential limited nuclear war theatre".

"Poland is particularly interested in and approves of the concepts of the denuclearization of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO borderline area which were formulated in the 80's. The realization of an idea of a nuclear-free zone has been acquiring particular importance especially at

present—when one faces the threat of modernization of tactical nuclear weapons as a means compensating for elimination of intermediate and shorter-range missiles," Kulski stated.

"Also the Jaruzelski Plan follows the trend towards the search for zonal limitations of armaments and for increasing confidence. The Polish plan is known to envisage the withdrawal from central Europe of jointly agreed kinds and quantities of nuclear arms. The realization of this point of the Polish proposal would decisively contribute to the transformation of central Europe into a nuclear-free zone. However, it is necessary to add that the plan's main idea refers to the problem of conventional stability in central Europe." Poland's representative concluded.

SPD's Bahr Proposes Talks
*LD2206134588 Hamburg DPA in German
1213 GMT 22 Jun 88*

[Excerpts] East Berlin (DPA)—At the conclusion of the East Berlin International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones, SPD disarmament expert Egon Bahr proposed a disarmament conference in Bonn in which all European governments should participate. At the same time he supported a Swedish parliamentarian's view on the Berlin Wall. In Bahr's opinion, his view that the Berlin Wall is a relic of the Cold War is "an indisputable, objective statement." Bahr today told journalists from East and West that this relic should "no longer be there" if a common European home is to be built. [passage omitted]

In his call to the Federal Government to hold an international peace conference, Bahr highlighted the argument that it is not doing enough to bring about further steps for disarmament. Like other participants in the conference, the SPD politician has over the last few days regretted that representatives of the CDU and CSU—in contrast to the SPD, FDP, and Greens—are not in East Berlin. The Union sees the East Berlin event, at which over 1,000 participants from 113 countries discussed issues concerning nuclear weapons-free corridors, as a "propaganda show" whose demands do not make peace any more secure.

FDP's Ronneburger Speaks
*AU2306093188 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 22 Jun 88 p 4*

[Speech by Uwe Ronneburger, member of the FDP Presidium, deputy chairman of the FDP group in the FRG Bundestag, and head of the FDP delegation to the International Meeting for Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones in Berlin on 20 June]

[Text] Mr Chairman of the State Council.

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen.

The FDP of the FRG was pleased to accept the invitation to this congress because it has always advocated the use of all levels of dialogue to make peace more secure. We have come here to talk with a wide-ranging group on possibilities for leading people out of "the shadow of the nuclear bomb." We seek dialogue and the exchange of opinions, in order to explain different positions and to foster understanding for the positions of others.

The world is watching the positive course of the disarmament and arms control negotiations with hope and expectation. By means of dialogue, the summit between the leaders of the USSR and the United States has produced trend-setting results in spite of different views. The new thinking in West-East relations does not only open up perspectives for further disarmament steps but also for a thorough change that may lead from reducing confrontation to broad cooperation in all fields. Opinions may differ about the ways toward the aspired success. But I believe that we have jointly become aware of the need to overcome "war as an institution."

In view of the fact that mankind is confronted with the alternative of either proving its readiness for peace or preparing its own demise, reason has initiated a change of consciousness which enables us to open up trend-setting paths to safeguard peace.

We must be aware of the fact that nuclear arms are not the cause of the danger of war. For more than 40 years, they have protected us from armed conflict in Europe, in contrast to regions that are not jeopardized by nuclear destruction. But nevertheless we must not content ourselves in the long run with a strategy of deterrence by a bilaterally secured second-strike capacity. Securing peace politically, as we aspire to, means far more than the abolition of weapons and the modification of strategies. We need a system of cooperative security.

With the Helsinki Final Act and the final documents of the follow-up conferences, we have linked a comprehensive code of conduct for the states of the two alliance systems in East and West and for the neutral and nonaligned states in Europe, with a wide-ranging program of building confidence and cooperation. Strengthening the human dimension by implementing civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights to which the community of states has committed itself, especially by granting self-determination and freedom of movement, and consolidating the awareness of the spiritual unity and cultural identity of divided Europe, are important tasks of the CSCE process. We have to further promote this process, that is, equally in all three baskets. We hope that, accordingly, a substantial final document will be adopted in Vienna very soon.

The qualitative progress of the CSCE process has contributed much to building confidence and thus to safeguarding peace. This also corresponds to the objective of

the Harmel concept, which is still valid for the NATO states, that is, to create a European peace zone in which states with different social orders can coexist in a peaceful competition without fearing one other.

On the basis of this concept, the alliance of Western democracies has considerably contributed to preserving peace in Europe. Preventing war, that is, avoiding every nuclear and conventional war, remains the target of Western alliance strategy.

The result of the Stockholm conference was an encouraging sign of the vitality of the CSCE process. Now a sign of a similar quality is expected from Vienna. Conventional disarmament is an integral and important part of the entire disarmament process. We regard establishing stability on a lower level of conventional armament as a central task for Europe. For this purpose, it is necessary to reduce the conventional imbalance in Europe.

The dynamic development in disarmament and arms control, and in East-West relations in general has shown that it is not only possible to stop the arms race, but that it can even be turned around. The agreement on the worldwide reduction of nuclear intermediate-range missiles—to which the FRG Government has made substantial contributions—is a visible example of it.

We also expect an impetus from this agreement for other important sectors of disarmament and arms control:

—An agreement between the USSR and the United States on halving the nuclear-strategic offensive potentials seems to be possible this year.

—We also hope for solutions that will prevent an arms race in space.

—In the field of chemical weapons we are close to the desired objective of a global ban. The use of the terrible poisonous gas in the Gulf War has shown us the urgency of a worldwide ban on chemical weapons which is not limited only to particular zones.

—The renunciation of any kind of nuclear test by the nuclear powers and safeguarding this by a test ban treaty that can be comprehensively verified would be desirable.

We also regard the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons as an important element of arms control. The efforts for nuclear disarmament of the recognized nuclear states have to be complemented by internationally integrating the states that have not yet joined the Nonproliferation Treaty.

Years ago, the FDP had already postulated a nuclear-free Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. This is an ideal that can represent the goal a long process of confidence-building, cooperation, and disarmament. We have deliberately chosen this broad approach, which is in contrast to the concept of limited nuclear-free zones or corridors in Europe that is under discussion.

For well-conceived reasons, as I believe, the FDP does not consider the establishment of nuclear-free zones or corridors to be an appropriate step to improve security in Europe.

—Not only the nuclear weapons deployed there but also the fact that nuclear weapons may be aimed at such an area are decisive for the nuclear threat to an area.

—Simply moving the nuclear arsenals apart would not increase stability but would only create an illusion of greater safety.

—Highly effective weapons systems that have been removed from narrow corridors could be brought back within hours.

But precisely the complete worldwide elimination of a whole category of weapons and a really practicable verification are the decisive criteria of the INF Treaty. What we in East and West considered right, logical, and appropriate in the INF Treaty, cannot be wrong with regard to other considerations of disarmament policy.

Therefore, in pursuing the target of reducing nuclear weapons, we advocate bearing in mind the same principle as implemented in the INF Treaty and not restricting it to a regulation of zones.

The nuclear-free zones that so far have been established outside Europe are a useful instrument in the spirit of the Nonproliferation Treaty. However, such concepts are of no avail where it is not yet possible to prevent a nuclear threat in the foreseeable future.

Disarmament, ladies and gentlemen, has to lead to more security. For the time being, we will not achieve a denuclearization of Europe, which, however, must not prevent us from continuing our efforts to further reduce nuclear potentials.

Making war impossible from intellectual and military points of view must be a joint political aim.

—Peace requires trust. Therefore, increasing mutual trust in the honorable intentions of the other side will be decisive for further successes in all sectors of arms control and disarmament. The basis for this is relevant military data and their verification, proceeding on the basis of the positive experiences of the agreements of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, within the CSCE process, and following the regime of verification of the INF Treaty.

—We have to agree in East and West on achieving exclusively defensive military doctrines on both sides. This presupposes changes in volume, armament, deployment, leadership principles, and training facilities of the armed forces.

—Thus, a restructuring of the Warsaw Pact Armed Forces is also necessary for conventional stability so that they are no longer capable of large-scale offensive operations and surprise attacks.

—The awareness of the absolute priority of peace should make it easier for us to remove outdated images of foes. This is an intellectual act of disarmament. It also implies not educating young people for ideological confrontation.

We Germans in both states are aware of our special responsibility for peace. Only peace, and never again war, must emanate from German soil, as you, Mr Chairman of the State Council, and the chancellor, have jointly formulated. In his latest speech at the Potsdam conference, Foreign Minister Genscher emphatically recalled the historical responsibility for peace of the two German states.

There were times in which the German-German relationship was an obstacle to an improvement of the East-West relationship. Now we have reached a level of relations that enables us to act positively to promote the policy of detente and the CSCE process.

The German nation has always played a special role, positively and negatively, in the heart of Europe, the field of tension of world history. The letter on German unity, which was written on the basis of the Basic Law for the FRG and is attached to the Basic Treaty, shows our perspective for the future of the German nation. Regardless of the form it will take in view of the profound contrasts and differences in the political and social systems, we stick to the principle that a German people united by free self-determination will be a stabilizing factor in a European order of peace in which all Europeans will find peace and the fulfillment of their inalienable rights.

Iranian Warning on Chemical Arms

LD2206202788 Tehran IRNA in English
1853 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 22, (IRNA)—High Presidential Advisor Mostafa Mir Salim in his address to the conference on nuclear free zones in East Berlin Wednesday, warned the world of the spread of chemical weapons' use.

Mir Salim, referring to the superpowers' sinister role in intensifying the deployment of toxic gases, noted that the browbeating policy adopted by both the superpowers has prevented world bodies from guaranteeing the execution of justice in international relations.

Every country in the world is now trying to equip itself with the most sophisticated arms and even with means of mass destruction such as nuclear, chemical and microbiological weapons because of its lack of faith in the status quo of international bodies, he said.

Moral crisis and lack of humane values, the main causes of all international crises, are threatening humanity more seriously than ever before, Mir Salim noted.

He said that lack of these values which are the safest criteria for regulating human behaviour has shaken the cultural foundations of societies in the modern world.

The Iranian official said the Islamic Republic of Iran by relying on its revolutionary ideals still views with respect various efforts made around the world for achieving a general disarmament, he said.

At present, Mir Salim warned, exploitation of science for manufacturing weapons of destruction portends a bleak future for humanity. He also criticized big powers for using their latest research and scientific achievements in manufacturing such deadly weapons.

Although general disarmament is of greatest importance to all peace-loving people in the world, it cannot establish a lasting peace around the globe by itself, he said.

Military hegemony of certain developing countries and even ambitious goals of some third world countries are now gaining momentum which indicate the defeat of peace efforts in international forums, Mir Salim said.

Continued the Iranian senior presidential advisor that the Middle East, as a key strategic region with rich underground resources has always been the target of plots and aggressions of the big powers. He also lashed out at the Zionist regime for paving the way for big powers' intervention in the Middle East.

With regards to such dangers threatening the Middle East, turning the region into a nuclear free zone would be an effective stride to attain disarmament and establish peace throughout the world, he added.

Elsewhere in his speech, Mir Salim enumerated war crimes committed by the Iraqi regime in its war against Islamic Iran in defiance of all international regulations such as repeated use of chemical weapons, bombardment of residential areas and attacks on passenger planes and ships.

It is a matter of regret that international organizations have never taken a serious or timely stance against the Iraqi regime's crimes encouraged Baghdad to perpetrate one of the most gruesome crimes in the world, he said obviously referring to Iraq's poison gas attacks on the Iranian liberated town of Halabjah on March 18 which 5,000 Kurdish people were martyred and over 7,000 others maimed.

Such horrible crimes warrant attention from international bodies who he said seem to be indifferent to the grave consequences of chemical warfare.

On Washington's illegal intrusions in the Persian Gulf, Mir Salim said that the U.S. despite being the main instrument behind U.N. Resolution 598 on the Iraqi-imposed war, has despatched its military forces to the region under the pretext of securing shipping, in a blatant violation of the resolution's 5th article.

A year after U.S. military intervention in the Persian Gulf attacks on ships doubled and regional tension heightened, Mir Salim said. He also held those supporting the cause of tension in the region responsible for damages inflicted on the oil installations of regional countries and for environmental pollution caused by oil leakage.

Lao Representative Cited

LD2306170888 East Berlin ADN in German
1449 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 22 Jun (ADN)—The exchange of opinions on creating nuclear weapons-free zones, which took place in a favorable international climate, is of burning topicality and is deeply realistic. This was stressed by acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP [Lao People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and President of the Lao Front for National Construction. The meeting was of burning topicality because such zones corresponded to the most inherent interests of the peoples, and realistic because such zones have already been proclaimed and further initiatives are being taken.

Laos fully and completely supports the initiatives and proposals for nuclear weapons-free zones, Phoumi said. It emphatically supports the significant initiative from the GDR and the CSSR for creating a nuclear weapons-free corridor in central Europe as well, which it regards as an important contribution to preserving peace at this sensitive point of military confrontation.

The Lao representative recalled that a long time ago, along with Vietnam and Cambodia, Laos proposed turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation. In this regard, a document on the basic principles for relations of peaceful coexistence between the countries of Indochina and ASEAN was put forward at the UN General Assembly in 1981. After persistent struggle, it can now be established with pleasure that the tendency in Southeast Asia toward confrontation is being pushed back more and more each day and that the tendency toward dialogue is increasing more and more. That corresponds to the general trend in the world and the perspective on a rapid political solution to the Cambodian question is thereby being opened up.

Phoumi Vongvichit sketched the most recent developments on this issue and put forward the opinion that Cambodia's internal affairs must be solved by the interested Cambodian sides on the basis of national reconciliation, excluding any possibility of the genocidal regime becoming reestablished.

The withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia must be accompanied by the cessation of any foreign intervention in its internal affairs. An international conference should guarantee the realization of relevant agreements. At the same time, the countries of this region should start a dialogue to solve the questions connected with creating a zone of peace and security in Southeast Asia, ending confrontation and promoting relations of friendship and cooperation between the countries of the area. In this regard, Laos supports the ASEAN initiative for a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality, as well as the initiative taken at the ASEAN annual conference in 1986 in Manila on the creation of a nuclear weapons-free zone in Southeast Asia.

Phoumi Vongvichit cited peaceful coexistence, dialogue, and settling conflicts and disagreements as the general tendency today in the face of the danger of a nuclear war which would destroy everything. A policy based on nuclear threat, confrontation, violence, and wars by proxy will certainly fail.

Panel Discussion Held

LD2106224488 East Berlin ADN in German
2004 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Jun (ADN)—A panel discussion on the joint initiative of the SED, SPD, and the CPCZ on the creation of a nuclear weapons-free corridor and a chemical weapons-free zone in central Europe ended this evening in the assembly room of the Palace of the Republic, on the 2d day of consultations at the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones in Berlin. Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee; Egon Bahr, member of the SPD Presidium; Josef Kempny, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the CPCZ; and other representatives of the three parties took their places in the Presidium. The discussion, in front of numerous participants in the Berlin meeting, was chaired by General Michiel von Meyenfeldt, retired, chairman of the Generals for Peace group. The general first invited the representatives of the three parties to introduce their delegations and to make a short statement as a basis for discussion.

Opening the discussion, Hermann Axen stressed that following the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, the corridor proposal gained even greater value for the disarmament process in Europe. This process must lead step by step from the present state of over-arming to drastic reductions of arms in order to achieve guaranteed national defense capability, which would preclude any invasion.

The joint SED-SPD working group is negotiating this on behalf of their parties. The corridor, Hermann Axen said, could be an important initial step. Its implementation would remove all tactical nuclear weapons, nuclear battlefield weapons, and chemical weapons from 150 km on each side of the dividing line. All weapons of dual application are also expressly included. This would also achieve an initial deep cut in the existing conventional arms structures. The SED politician described the corridor proposal as objectively thought out and coordinated. It cannot replace state initiatives, but it can encourage them.

Josef Kempny pointed to the need, at a time when nuclear weapons threaten the existence of mankind, to seek, despite all ideological differences, the binding elements in the positions and to join forces to solve existing problems. It is also on this basis that the CSSR-GDR joint proposal was made for establishing a nuclear weapons-free corridor in central Europe. Kempny regretted that the proposal has still not met with a positive response from the FRG Government, to which it was addressed. He also noted that the joint initiatives of the SED, SPD, and CPCZ are not restricted to these parties but are open to all those interested.

Egon Bahr pointed out that the corridor proposal contains verification regulations which have not been accepted before. In this connection too, the proposal could have a pilot function. He is convinced that if the corridor functions, many people and peoples would acquire an "appetite for more." That is the reason for the disapproval in the past of those who fear this appetite. Unfortunately, he cannot share the opinion that the corridor, once put into practice, would lead to the liberation of the European continent from nuclear weapons. Even if all nuclear weapons are removed from the countries, there would still be Soviet, British, French, and U.S. nuclear weapons present.

After the statements of principle, the representatives of the three work groups answered numerous questions from the conference participants. Asked about ideological differences and common ground in the positions of the three parties, Hermann Axen said that with regard to the common principles for a nuclear weapons-free zone, it is a case of a jointly worked-out document for which they are jointly responsible. Egon Bahr added that they have come to agreement on a practical project. The ideological differences between the parties have in no way been touched through this project. Josef Kempny agreed with him, saying that they are making an effort in the same way to find further areas in which joint initiatives are possible.

Egon Bahr was then asked whether his party would push through the corridor proposal if it acquires governmental responsibility in the FRG. Everything we have agreed upon has taken into consideration the standpoint that we would also carry out if in power, Bahr replied.

There was also great interest in the further discussions on the initiative for a chemical weapons-free zone. Replying to a question on the obstacles to a banning of chemical weapons, Prof Karl-Heinz Lohs (GDR) said it is especially the restrictive attitude of the United States which is blocking a worldwide ban on chemical weapons, although an extensive agreement on the verifiability of such a ban has been achieved. This attitude is expressed in the start-up of the production of binary chemical weapons and demonstrates the lack of political will in the United States to arrive at a ban on these mass-destruction weapons.

On the question of how the SPD assesses the creation of nuclear-free zones in northern Europe and the Balkans, and whether this would be a necessary further development of the establishment of a corridor in central Europe, Egon Bahr said that he supports nuclear-free zones, wherever they are created. However, each cannot be made dependent on the other.

A further question concerned the activities of the three parties in improving public knowledge of the corridor proposal and winning the Federal Government over to it. Hermann Axen said that there have been press conferences in Bonn and Prague at which the proposal was explained comprehensively. As far as the states are concerned, the governments of the GDR and the CSSR issued official notes at the time to Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl in order to commence without delay with negotiations on creating such a corridor. This proposal has also been brought up again and again at the regular consultations between the GDR and the FRG on questions of disarmament. However, there has been no positive response to date. Hermann Axen expressed the hope that negotiations would nevertheless come about.

Honecker Closes Session

LD2206162988 East Berlin ADN in German
1515 GMT 22 Jun 88

[“Concluding Remarks by Erich Honecker, GDR State Council Chairman and General Secretary of the SED Central Committee, at the International Meeting for Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones in Berlin”—ADN headline]

[Text] Berlin, 22 Jun (ADN)—

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends and comrades,

The International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones, which became a world forum of peace, is drawing to a close. Some 1,034 participants from 113 countries around the world have, in 3 work-filled days, discussed the most important issue of world politics: how to secure

peace and avert a nuclear inferno. In two plenary sessions, in the sessions of nine commissions, in platform discussions and in nine specific meetings, 651 speakers have spoken on issues vital to mankind.

Our dialogue has been comprehensive, open, and objective, and was conducted on the basis of equal rights. We have all learned. Here, experiences from all continents have flowed together—from those who already live in nuclear weapons-free zones and those who are striving for such a state. We heard the opinions of representatives of the nuclear powers, and we heard the representatives of states that do not possess nuclear weapons, from East and West, from North and South, from developed and developing countries.

Without exaggeration, one can say that the International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones in the GDR capital has turned out to be the most extensive world forum ever on peace issues. This meeting has a truly universal character. I believe that it has been convincingly proven that reason and realism are making more and more headway in international relations between peoples and states. This international meeting is a convincing expression of the new thinking in the nuclear era, the necessity for which was pointed out by Albert Einstein immediately after the creation of the first nuclear bomb.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends,

The conclusions and evaluations resulting from this meeting will be made by you, the participants. Let it be permitted for us as hosts to stress the following: Our meeting was extremely timely. Immediately after the Moscow summit between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan, which dealt with the elimination of Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles, representatives from all over the world have signalled the resolve of the peoples themselves to make an active contribution to peace and international security by means of disarmament and detente. We have not spoken in general about the cause of peace. This meeting discussed ways to free mankind from nuclear weapons. One of the principal ways—as has been proven many times at our meeting—is the creation of nuclear weapons-free zones and regions. These strengthen nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, and are designed to liberate greater and greater areas from the nuclear devil. They create trust and stability.

Our peace forum has confirmed that there is something new and great in world politics. The peoples' conscience, their committed thinking and action, their understanding and their collaboration are determining the course of history to an ever-greater degree. It is not just a few states deciding the fate of our planet. All countries, large or small, want to protect the first and most elementary human right, the right to life, themselves. If the nuclear

danger is banished, the arms race is stopped, and disarmament and cooperation march forward, then it will be possible to open up the rich resources of our earth for the free and equal development of all states and the happiness of all people.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends: Permit me to express to you our heartfelt gratitude for the fact that you have accepted my invitation and contributed, through your cooperation, to the success of this meeting. Let me also thank you for the kind words addressed to our German Democratic Republic.

I hope this meeting and your stay in our country have strengthened your certainty that peace has a reliable home in the center of Europe, on German soil, from which two world wars emanated in our century, at the sensitive dividing line between two social systems and the two strongest military groupings of our age. You will surely understand the feelings that move me as I make this observation on this day, on which, 47 years ago, Hitler's Germany insidiously attacked the Soviet Union—the country that, after all, made a decisive contribution in the anti-Hitler coalition toward liberating the people from fascist barbarism.

In the future the German Democratic Republic will continue to serve peace, our common concern, and the most noble cause of mankind, with consistency and initiative. We will contribute to this through our activities to establish a nuclear weapons-free corridor and a zone of trust and security in central Europe.

Esteemed guests: Please take home with you our sincerest greetings to your heads of state and to the governments, parliaments, and peoples of your countries.

The 1988 International Meeting for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones is closed.

Hungary's Szuros Reviews Meeting LD2206152488 Budapest MTI in English 1431 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Berlin, June 22 (MTI)—Matyas Szuros, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee who headed the Hungarian delegation to the international Berlin conference on the nuclear-free zones, pointed out that after the Soviet-American summit in Moscow, this was the most comprehensive meeting which directed public attention to the importance of nuclear disarmament, the significance of the nuclear-free zones and the special place of Europe.

Insistence on nuclear deterrence is not feasible in today's world. We support the creation of a nuclear-free corridor from Scandinavia to the Balkans, including Hungary.

but here the number of conventional devices should also be considerably reduced. Therefore, the corridor would not only serve confidence-building but also gain military importance.

Nuclear disarmament, which is not the exclusive affair of the nuclear powers, has to be powerfully completed by the reduction of conventional forces and armaments, because otherwise we cannot make headway in other areas either," the HSWP CC secretary stressed.

He highly appreciated the fact that the forum had the opportunity to confront different views both at the plenary session and the working committees, and several useful initiatives were made. Special mention should be made, he said, of the extensive participation of the West German parties, the SPD, the FDP, the Greens and various social and mass organizations. Egon Bahr, presidential member of SPD, pointed out during the debate on the armed forces, that what is most important is not the data on the current condition but how much is left of what. "In my view," Matyas Szuros said, "it should not be permitted that the dispute about numerical data continue to obstruct progress, and the military approach should be increasingly replaced by political, with the emphasis laid on confidence-building."

The bold proposal of the Soviet Union that all armed forces stationed abroad should be withdrawn by 2000 has aroused great interest. Naturally, we welcome the initiative, Matyas Szuros said. He pointed out that, as he said in his yesterday's speech, Hungary is interested in belonging the group of countries that can first start the armed force reduction in their territory, including their own and the allied forces. Although mutuality and reciprocity are fundamental criteria, unilateral moves fitting into the entire process, are also conceivable. Hungary seems apt to take such unilateral alliance gestures that make the political will unambiguous and do not threaten the security of the country and other states.

CSSR's Kempny 'Pleased'

LD2206165288 Prague CTK in English
1605 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Berlin June 21 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak delegation has been very pleased by the support given to the initiatives to create a nuclear-free corridor and chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe, Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member Josef Kempny told journalists at the end of an international session on nuclear-weapons-free zones here today.

The initiatives were submitted last year by the Czechoslovak Communist Party, the GDR's Socialist Unity Party of Germany SED, the West German Social Democratic Party SPD, Czechoslovakia and the GDR.

Participants in the meeting also paid great attention to the initiative to create a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighbourly relations on the borderline

between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries, submitted by Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes, Josef Kempny, head of the Czechoslovak delegation at the meeting, said.

This proposal was discussed not only at the plenary session and in individual commissions, but also at a special discussion on the joint initiatives of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, SED and SPD, which met with the participants' great interest, Josef Kempny added.

He stated that the meeting represented an open and very concrete dialogue. The total majority of participants supported the idea of zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in various parts of the world. Great attention was naturally paid to the forming of nuclear-free zones in Europe and especially in central Europe, the area where the two most powerful military groupings have common borders and in which large quantities of arms, including nuclear, are deployed.

Josef Kempny stressed that the meeting has again proved that efforts aimed at creating nuclear-free zones in the world are beneficial and reaffirmed that the peace policy of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and other socialist countries meets with very positive response in the world.

Delegates to Nuclear-Weapons-Free Meeting Speak

CSSR's Kempny Talks

AU2406125688 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
22 Jun 88 pp 1, 7

[Report by RUDE PRAVO correspondents Vladimir Plesnik and Vladimir Vacha, and CTK: "Czechoslovakia's Active Contribution to the Common European Home: Second Day of the Berlin Meeting"]

[Excerpt] Berlin—The International Meeting on Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones in the GDR capital continued with sessions in nine commissions on Tuesday [21 June]. The Czechoslovak delegation head Josef Kempny, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Czech National Council, spoke about the CSSR's concrete efforts.

Speaking in the second commission, he first emphasized the importance of political dialogue at all levels and highly assessed the results of the Soviet-American talks.

The common European home is becoming the dominant political vision of Europe. The CSSR's concrete contribution in this regard is the proposal to establish a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line of contact between Warsaw Pact and NATO states. Central to our proposal is the conviction that relations between states must be founded on trust.

the groundwork for which is laid by specific, mutually advantageous cooperation, by contacts permeating the political and military as well as economic, ecological, and humanitarian spheres.

We believe that the creation of a strong fabric of good-neighborly relations among these states can become one of the pillars of our continent's peaceful development. For this reason we consider it logical that all countries located in the zone of contact should take practical steps to achieve a qualitatively new level of relations and comprehensively contribute to the furtherance of the Helsinki process.

In the military sphere we propose the gradual creation of some sort of a diluted zone from which the most dangerous types of offensive weapons would be removed. At the same time we propose the adoption of additional confidence-building measures, a broader-application of the Stockholm conference agreements, and the enforcement of specific steps to reduce the danger of a surprise attack. The steps being proposed by us must be viewed in the context of the whole package of the Warsaw Pact member states' foreign political initiatives. They build on and more deeply develop earlier joint proposals of the SPD, SED, and CPCZ to create a corridor free of nuclear weapons and a zone free of chemical weapons in central Europe, and other proposals aimed at promoting trust and disarmament on the continent.

However, this does not mean that the entire process must necessarily begin in the military sphere. We are convinced that the exploitation of existing potentials in the political, economic, humanitarian, or ecological spheres would favorably influence the overall situation in Europe and stimulate measures to reduce military confrontation. This is why we propose also the attainment of a new level of political, economic, cultural, and inter-human relations. The broad spectrum of mutually advantageous cooperation could include, for instance, also new, nontraditional forms in the sphere of production cooperation, in trade and services, in tourism, transport infrastructure, in enhancing the safety of nuclear power plants, and in the prevention and solution of all serious ecological issues.

Favorable conditions are being created for the development of such cooperation by the economic restructuring in a number of socialist countries and by the normalization of relations between the EEC and CEMA member states.

An important element of our proposal is its humanitarian dimension, which is an inseparable part of the process of building confidence. It provides for the expansion of cooperation not only in the sector of cultural, scientific, educational, and health contacts, but also for the extension of contacts between people, and for an improvement in the conditions for the development of international tourism and for better mutual knowledge.

The process of building mutual confidence should thus directly involve millions of people, which would at the same time represent an important guarantee of its irreversibility.

We do not propose a new forum for negotiating and assessing our initiative, which is open to all constructive ideas. We intend to make maximum use of the existing forums and render the structures and mechanisms of multilateral and bilateral dialogue with all interested states more flexible and efficient.

One of the basic premises of the proposal is the principle of good-neighborly relations. Breaches or undermining of this elementary principle of civilized society often resulted in tragedies and in the suffering of many nations in the past. We are convinced that good-neighborly relations in the narrow and broad sense of the word are becoming an important connecting link in the joint solution of various problems with which the times are confronting us.

An irreplaceable role in building stable relations in Europe is played by the consistent implementation of commitments undertaken within the framework of the Helsinki process. We expect the Vienna follow-up meeting to produce a qualitatively new contribution in this regard for all aspects of all-European security and cooperation. A new page in the disarmament efforts in Europe should be opened, before this year is out, by the talks on reducing armed forces and conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The democratization of international relations, which is expressed also in the increased activity of small and medium-sized countries, gives a new boost to the enhancement of security and to the creation of the necessary infrastructure of cooperation. The source of the increased dynamism of the foreign policy of socialist countries, including Czechoslovakia, are, above all, the processes of restructuring and democratization, the materialization of the new political thinking in the form of specific steps in the international field. These processes establish favorable prerequisites for the further activation of Czechoslovakia in the struggle for a nuclear-free world and for peaceful cooperation among nations, the Czechoslovak representative said.

The second day of the meeting in the Palace of the Republic in Berlin culminated in a discussion in the plenum. On the agenda were questions connected with the joint SED, CPCZ, and SPD initiative for a nuclear-free corridor and a zone free of chemical weapons in central Europe. Josef Kempny also took the floor in the course of the evening.

He emphasized that the CPCZ regards the cooperation of communist, socialist, social democratic, and other parties as an important factor of dynamizing international relations, improving the international situation, solving the problems of disarmament, and promoting

peace and security in Europe and in the world. The Berlin meeting deals with the question of nuclear-free zones, the creation of which in various parts of the world would be of fundamental importance for further progress in nuclear disarmament, forestalling a nuclear war, and preserving world peace. It was precisely the joint initiative of the CPCZ, SPD, and SED that became the basis of the joint proposal of the CSSR and the GDR in 1986 to create a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe.

We regret that for the time being the proposal has not met with a positive response of the partner to which it was addressed, that is, of the FRG Government. This is all the more regrettable as, following the withdrawal of Soviet operational and tactical missiles from the CSSR and the GDR at the beginning of the year, which was completed even before the ratification of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate and Shorter-Range Missiles, the CSSR has become a country on the territory of which there are no nuclear weapons.

Romania's Radulescu Speaks

AU2406110988 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
0847 GMT 24 Jun 88

[“President Nicolae Ceausescu’s Conceptions, Initiatives, and Demarcations for the Creation of Nuclear-Free Zones Set Forth by the Romanian Delegations at the Berlin Meeting”]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 24/6/1988—At the close of the International Meeting on the Creation of Nuclear-Free Zones, held in Berlin, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the CC of the SUPG, chairman of the Council of State of the GDR, received the heads of the participating delegations.

On the occasion, from Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Erich Honecker was conveyed a warm friendly salute and best wishes of good health and personal happiness, of success and prosperity to the GDR people.

Thanking, Erich Honecker asked that Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu be conveyed a cordial friendly salute, wishes of good health and happiness, and the Romanian people, successes in the building of the multilaterally developed socialist society.

Addressing the meeting, the Romanian chief delegate, Gheorghe Radulescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, vice-president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, said:

In the conditions of the current international situation which continues to be grave and complex, more than ever before, people, peace-loving forces everywhere should rally their efforts and collaborate more closely to defend people’s and nations’ foremost right to peace, life, free and dignified existence.

In front of the survival-or-disappearance choice—the speaker said—the question of nuclear disarmament, of disarmament in general cannot be viewed as the competence of the big powers or of a restricted group of states, it is of equal interest to all the peoples, all the states, irrespective of social system, political philosophy, size, economic or military strength.

It is in this vision that fits Romania’s conception on the creation of nuclear-free zones on areas as wide as possible, with a great concentration of nuclear arms and densely populated, considering them to be important steps towards speeding up the process of nuclear disarmament.

The speaker further referred to the multiple actions initiated by Romania for the transformation of the Balkans into a zone of peace and understanding, friendship and collaboration, free of nuclear and chemical weapons, of troops and foreign military bases.

Upon President Nicolae Ceausescu’s initiative, ever since the first special session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament in 1978 and, afterwards, at the Geneva Disarmament Conference as well as at the Stockholm conference in 1984, Romania advanced the proposal for the establishment, along the frontiers between the NATO and Warsaw Treaty countries, of a demilitarized corridor of security, free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. Furthermore, he said, Romania has welcomed and backed the efforts of the countries committed to creating nuclear- and chemical-weapon-free zones in central and northern Europe as well as in other parts of the world, and to proclaiming nuclear-free countries and towns. In this respect, we appreciate the initiatives of the German Democratic Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for the creation of a denuclearized corridor just as the joint initiative of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Social Democratic Party of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

Declaring and acting for the building of nuclear-weapon-free zones, Romania also underscores the need that the states possessing such weapons should guarantee strict observance of the status of like zones, which would be prerequisite for the creation of a climate of confidence and security.

FRG's Bahr Addresses Group

AU2606100388 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 21 Jun 88 p 6

[Speech delivered by Egon Bahr, head of the SPD delegation, member of the SPD Presidium, chairman of the Bundestag subcommittee on disarmament and arms control and member of the SPD-SED joint work group on security policy issues, at the International Meeting on Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones in Berlin on 20 June 88]

[Text] Mr Chairman of the State Council!

Ladies and gentlemen!

I am speaking in a fivefold capacity—but, to reassure you, let me add that I do not claim five times as much speaking time. I am speaking as a member of the SPD Presidium, for the Socialist International, as a member of the Palme Commission, as a member of the joint working group that worked out the principles of a nuclear-free zone, and as a human being. The latter is the most important.

In this impressive hall many people have gathered who differ from rather than resemble one another in their color of skin, experience, age, sex, beliefs, professions, values, political persuasions, past, and social origins. However, even though much divides us, our common responsibility for the primary goal of mankind—to preserve life—is larger. History must continue so that our hopes are fulfilled, so that the individual can develop his abilities in freedom and dignity, and so that we can debate on the best way for our societies—societies that are subject to change.

Whether nuclear fission or the Third World and the growth of its population are at issue, whether it is the destruction of our environment and of the biosphere—all these bombs were made by man and can only be deactivated by man. Only common sense can abolish the dangers the mind has created. As a Social Democrat, I know how difficult it is for common sense to be accepted by the majority. Mankind is condemned to the rule of common sense, or the rule of common sense is mankind's chance—if you will—if mankind does not want to perish. The coalition of common sense has been mentioned in both German states. I think that responsibility and farsightedness must make us allies, and, if necessary, accomplices, of common sense, beyond all borders that separate and will continue to separate countries and systems, programs and beliefs—just like fire and water, as Erich Honecker and Helmut Kohl rightly said recently. However, even fire and water will exist for mankind only if history continues. What we formulated together with our colleagues of the SED on the "conflict of ideologies and common security" originates from this spirit and is supposed to help far beyond the two parties and German states.

Being one who is convinced of the current necessity of the two alliances and of the stability that we need to establish a European house; being one who has come to respect realities even if he does not like them; and being one who knows the two superpowers, I say that the necessary loyalty to my alliance and to my country cannot relieve me of the loyalty of my conscience and the knowledge of the law of human life. The very people who think differently are today our partners and, hopefully, allies of common security. I have come here so that this phrase may be a foregone conclusion tomorrow.

Common security is the central message of the Palme Commission to a world with assured nuclear second strike capabilities and, given all the other global dangers, probably also for a world later on if the nuclear threat can be eliminated. The essence of this doctrine is that potential enemies have become indispensable partners in each other's security because today no side can win and unity would only be possible in destruction. That means rejecting one-sidedness, including deterrence—that is, the hope for perfect common sense in an enemy who will allow himself to be deterred. Deterrence and stepped-up armament are twins. Therefore, the point is to put a process in motion that will gradually reduce deterrence and disarmament and gradually replace them with common, meaning collective, security structures.

On the Palme Commission, the father of the idea of the corridor was Cyrus Vance who, I understand, is sick and therefore unable to be here today. He was supported by David Owen. These two former foreign ministers of the United States and Great Britain said that tactical nuclear weapons and short-range missiles are deployed so far forward that in the event of war they would have to be used quickly or they would be lost (use them or lose them) [phrase in parentheses in English]. The nuclear threshold would possibly be crossed within a few hours. Nobody knows whether this would be the beginning of the end of mankind, or whether the catastrophe could be limited to Europe or Germany. Therefore, it would be no less in the West's than in the East's interests to reduce the danger of an early use of these weapons and to withdraw them on both sides, and to create a nuclear-free corridor. In the event of a crisis, gaining time could mean everything. Yuriy Arbatov, the Soviet commission member, pointed out the military limits and negotiating problems of such an arrangement, which would indeed be a confidence-building measure of special quality and would therefore have a value of its own even if not a single weapon were scrapped.

We have to admit that the Palme Commission was not aware of the complexity of its proposal. It was the SPD-SED joint working group that stated that human ingenuity has given us artillery on both sides that is able to use conventional as well as nuclear shells. Those who want to remove nuclear carriers also have to remove conventional carriers. We had envisaged a far-reaching reduction in the conventional capacity for attack and defense long before a mandate on conventional stability was even discussed and before the treaty on the worldwide abolition of all land-based intermediate-range missiles was concluded.

This historic treaty exists now. It also changes the situation regarding the corridor. It is true, following the INF Treaty a corridor would be the logical continuation for also reducing the threat posed by short-range missiles and theater nuclear weapons, so that neither side could use them any longer against the other. In its present form

the proposal on the corridor would, if implemented, be a significant step toward more security and confidence in the center of Europe. However, the task we are facing now has grown.

We must take advantage of the opportunity offered by the treaty. This means we must achieve conventional and nuclear stability between the Atlantic and the Urals at a much lower level by reducing superiorities and asymmetries, verifiable in a foolproof way, to reach a situation where neither side would have the structural capacity to attack, but both sides would retain sufficient capacity for defense. This would require special arrangements for central Europe, and the idea of the corridor would thus have to develop from an isolated confidence-building measure into an integral part of European security, both conventional and nuclear. This is what we are working for.

The CDU in the Federal Republic prefers bilateral talks with GDR and SED figures and has not honored this forum with an official presence. This gives me an opportunity to consider the three main arguments against a corridor that, according to a newspaper report, the Federal Chancellor used in his negative reply to Erich Honecker.

First argument—and I heard this morning that colleague Ronneburger had similar ones:

For a nuclear threat to exist in an area, the decisive thing is not only the nuclear systems that are deployed there, but also the potential of this territory being reached by nuclear weapons. That is correct, and it applies to the whole world. It is possible today to deliver nuclear missiles accurately to virtually every point on our earth. Yet, many regions and countries want to remain free of nuclear weapons, and they know why.

Second argument:

The mere pulling back of nuclear arsenals would only create an illusion of security. This argument not only diminishes the intermediate-range agreement or even turns it into an illusion. This argument also inadmissibly ignores the fact that, as a consequence of a corridor, the point would be not only a pulling back, but the verified destruction of nuclear systems. However, to establish that fact, we must talk, and not write letters.

Third argument:

Given the Warsaw Pact's conventional superiority in Europe, a nuclear-free zone would jeopardize stability. To begin with, the third argument is negated by the first, because even in a nuclear-free zone, strategic weapons would still threaten this territory from outside—weapons that would probably be more than sufficient for political deterrence. However, even more interesting is the fact that those who support the third argument would not rule out nuclear-free zones, if the Warsaw Pact's

conventional superiority no longer existed. This is a big step forward on the road to a broad coalition of common sense following the Warsaw Pact countries' offer to eliminate all superiorities.

Here we have the problem of vital interests and goals. Since Hiroshima and Nagasaki, no nuclear state has threatened in any conflict to use nuclear weapons against a nonnuclear state. No nuclear state has shared or will share with any other state the decision on the use of such weapons. No chancellor, no State Council chairman, and no head of government will get even a negative right of codetermination in the form of a veto against the use of such weapons. Therefore, I stand by the goal that I formulated earlier for the Palme Commission—to remove all nuclear weapons from the soil of countries that do not possess such weapons.

At least by the time the capability to launch a conventional attack has been removed—and not later—all nuclear weapons should only be deployed on the territory of the states that possess them. We only have limited sovereignty in deciding on the reduction and abolition of these weapons. These decisions are made by the nuclear states themselves. However, if they really want to reach the goal of removing such weapons, conventional stability becomes all the more important, and if in this way some nuclear superiority were to be abolished by some zero solution, that would certainly accelerate the negotiations on conventional stability.

One argument against our proposal on a corridor has not been raised—the argument that people have talked about weapons that do not even belong to them. As in the case of the model of a chemical weapons-free zone, this was in fact the point when representatives of the potential first victims of such weapons found out that they have common interests, even though they are members of different systems and alliances. The idea of common security became effective before it was confirmed by the INF Treaty in a splendid way. It is not just the right of those who would be hit first in the event of war, it also is their duty toward their people to make security unbreakable by submitting proposals of their own. The Germans from both states and the representatives from the CSSR know very well in this respect that they can propose many things, but can scarcely achieve anything without the agreement of their governments and alliances.

If one reads the distortions with which some governments veil their unwillingness to negotiate on further disarmament involving small nuclear weapons which can only hit their allies, if one sees the arrogance of power with which the nuclear states refuse to allow nonnuclear states to participate in the negotiations, even if weapons are involved that do not affect the nuclear states, nobody should be surprised if the European nonnuclear states define their own interests.

A little more than a week ago, Foreign Minister Genscher, in a remarkable speech in Potsdam, called for fourfold "courage to assume responsibility" and spoke in favor of a "vision of a European peace order, in which states with different social systems can exist side by side without fear of each other and in peaceful competition." I agree with him and would like to call for a fifth "courage to assume responsibility," which would be the courage of the FRG Government to act in accordance with these principles. It is good to call for something, but what is needed now is action. Particularly on the 15th anniversary of the entering into force of the Basic Treaty, it must be pointed out that the agreed consultation on security issues includes the joint preparation of initiatives for the respective alliances. Americans and Soviets get together and discuss many things, even regional issues, even Europe. This is good. However, why do the European governments not talk about their very own problems and search for possible solutions? We are by no means satellites! We

know our limits very well. However, self-determination within these limits cannot be achieved through entreaties but through action.

Therefore, let us get down to work. Let us do this within the framework of our responsibility. Let us work for this "so that the fatal idea of compensation will be killed," as Willy Brandt put it at the conference of the Socialist International in Madrid; so that rearment will not be carried out under the guise of the pretty word modernization, so that disarmament will continue dynamically and also include nuclear weapons; so that new impulses of confidence and stability will emanate from central Europe, also in the direction to which the State Council chairman agreed this morning; so that we will achieve an alliance of reason and replace confrontation in Europe with cooperation and peaceful competition between the systems; so that joint security will become the indestructible foundation of our European house; and so that we will no longer have an excuse to not turn unrestrictedly to the urgent problems of mankind.

Thank you very much.

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19 July 1988